

Veterinary Specialists Inc.

Dermatology

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Intradermal Skin Test Withdrawal Times

- ✓ **Baths:** Please make sure the pet has not been bathed 2 days before its appointment.
- ✓ **Ear Medication:** Please do not apply ANY ear treatments (cleaners or medications) the day before the appointment.
- ✓ **Fasting:**
 - Patient should have a twelve hour fast (water is allowed up to the morning of the appointment or if it is a geriatric patient). This is in case bloodwork needs to be obtained or a sedation or anesthetic procedure is performed.
 - Diabetic patients: Fasting is not necessary if the patient is diabetic.
- ✓ **If you suspect the case will be referred for an intradermal skin test (IDST):**
 - **Unspayed Pets:** Please make sure the pet is not in heat.
 - **Topical antihistamines and topical steroids:** Patient will need to have been off topical antihistamines and topical steroids for 2-3 weeks.
 - Topical therapy includes any cream, ointment, spray, rinse or shampoo on the skin.
 - **Otic steroid topicals** will need to be discontinued for at least 2-3 weeks.
 - **Ophthalmic steroid topicals** will need to be discontinued for at least 2-3 weeks.
 - **Oral antihistamines** will need to be discontinued for 2 weeks.
 - **Oral corticosteroids** will need to be discontinued for at least 4 weeks.
 - **Injectable corticosteroids:** Patients will need to have been off any injectable steroids for at least 6-8 weeks.
 - **Oral fatty acids** (if possible) will need to be discontinued for 2 weeks.

If the patient can not be off any of the above medications the pet will gladly be seen, but an IDST may not be performed on the initial visit.

Other topical options that may relieve pruritus are cool baths with oatmeal containing products or lime sulfur dips. Also, you can try barrier methods, as t-shirts, booties, or elizabethian collars.