

A female veterinarian with blonde hair tied back, wearing blue scrubs, is shown in profile. She is holding a small white and black spotted kitten in her arms. She has a stethoscope around her neck and is looking down at the kitten. The background is a blurred indoor setting, possibly a veterinary clinic. A semi-transparent dark red banner is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the title text.

# Vet Compounding: Atopic Dermatitis

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Atopic dermatitis (AD) is the most common reason for dog and cat owners to visit their local veterinary clinic. It also affects other species, such as horses and ferrets. In many cases, pet owners will approach a compounding pharmacist first before going to see their local veterinarian. AD provides a great opportunity for Central Drug Compounding & Wellness to show our value to you the pet owner, as well as your veterinarian.

## **Veterinarian Compounding Focus: What is Atopic Dermatitis?**

Atopic dermatitis (AD) is an inflammatory, itchy, allergic skin disease characterized by a hypersensitivity reaction of your pet's skin to causative agents found in the environment of the animal. These "triggers," or allergens, can be present in the air—in the case of dust and pollen—in food or in grooming products, just like we humans!

Usually, there is a genetic predisposition to atopic dermatitis, and in dogs, these breeds are more prone to this condition: Chinese Shar-Pei, Wirehaired Fox Terrier, Golden Retriever, Dalmatian, Boxer, Boston Terrier, Labrador Retriever, Lhasa Apso, Scottish Terrier, Shih Tzu and West Highland White Terrier. Compromise of the normal barrier function of the skin can also occur in many animals due to licking and biting of the affected areas. Immunologic abnormalities may also be present.

# White Paper Vet Compounding: Focus Atopic Dermatitis

## What Are The Signs?

Clinical signs usually occur on a seasonal basis, but may become year-round over time.

Pruritus, or itchiness, is the classic sign of atopic dermatitis. In cats and dogs: the feet, face, ears, flexible surfaces of the front legs, axillae (underarms) and abdomen are the most commonly affected areas. Lesions can range from red, inflamed, itchy patches to infected sores crusted over or open. With many cases alopecia (baldness) occurs, as well as darkening of the affected skin areas. Most affected areas are caused by the licking and biting that your pet does to alleviate the itching.

Find Out What Type Of  
Compounding We Do.

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**Central Drug**  
COMPOUNDING & WELLNESS