

HISTORY:

Henry Minchin was a regular visitor to the Priory Veterinary Surgery and had a history of otitis, dermatitis and severe recurring pododermatitis, for which he was receiving many daily topical treatments.

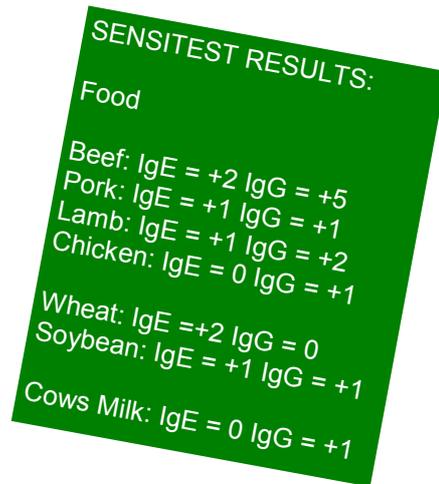
It was in July 2007, when Henry was aged 10, that his vet suspected hypersensitivities may be a contributing factor, and sent his serum off for a complete SENSITEST allergy test (food & environmental) plus malassezia.



ACTION:

The raised antibodies in both IgE and IgG suggested there were several foods in Henry's diet he could have true food hypersensitivity to and may be implicated in delayed allergy.

Under the guidance of their vet, Henry's owner Jackie totally removed beef, wheat, chicken, pork and lamb from his diet and instead fed him Wainwrights Salmon and potato dried food for mature dogs, along with Naturediet fish complete food in vaccum packs and olive oil or sunflower oil twice a day. It was important to apply this to Henry's treats too, so his biscuits included turkey, duck/venison and rice. It turned out he was also partial to a bit of fresh fish and fish skins!



RESULT:

Since altering Henry's diet he has had no reoccurrence of symptoms. He's just celebrated his 15th birthday and appears in excellent health; he still insists on two walks a day and has an excellent appetite.

Adverse food reaction is a common differential diagnosis for pruritic dogs (Bethlehem, Bexley & Mueller, 2012). A SENSITEST can be used as an aid to diagnosis and in the selection a suitable elimination diet, and in this case Henry's owner found it much easier to adhere to once the ingredients had been identified.

"There are so many varieties of alternative foods available now that it is quite easy to provide a suitable diet at a reasonable price. This is an excellent outcome for him (Henry) and can only be grateful that this test was available as it has made such a very great difference to the quality of both of our lives." - Jackie Minchin, Henry's owner.