

# Derm Digest

Tustin CA • San Diego CA • Marina del Rey CA • Pasadena CA • Ontario CA  
Indianapolis IN • Louisville KY • Marietta GA  
Perth Australia • Sydney Australia • Auckland New Zealand  
[www.animaldermatology.com](http://www.animaldermatology.com)



Animal Dermatology Clinic

Advancing the Art of Veterinary Dermatology

Summer 2015

## Sorry human, I'm allergic to you!



*Cooper, a Labrador retriever, shown here waiting to participate as ring bearer at his owners' wedding in November 2014.*

Cooper is a handsome Labrador retriever that lives with his owners Jenny and Ted in Southern California, but Cooper wasn't in great shape a while back. The owners reported that when Cooper was less than five months old, he was scratching himself to the point of bleeding and over the course of five years, multiple trips to the family veterinarian were made in attempts to control his itching. Jenny and Ted even went through the extraordinary steps to remove possible offending plants from the yard and put in hardwood floors in place of carpet to help Cooper. "Cooper had skin infections over the years from scratching himself until he bled, with chunks of hair falling out, rashes, welts and open lesions," says Jenny.

A co-worker of Jenny's recommended Animal Dermatology Clinic and Cooper's first visit was July 2014 with Dr. Eva Ganz in the Marina del Rey, CA clinic. Based on Cooper's history, Dr. Ganz recommended an allergy test, and beginning allergen specific immunotherapy.

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## The Hazards of Summer

Friendly reminders for pet safety

Summer allows us to get out and enjoy the great outdoors, but when away from the comfort and general safety of our homes, pets are exposed to situations that could impact their health and safety.

**Radiator coolant:** Use of car air conditioning this summer may cause coolant to overflow in driveways. Dogs are not deterred by the taste of coolant and it will cause serious health problems if ingested.

**Yard chemicals:** Herbicides, fertilizers, and insecticides help make yards attractive and comfortable. Watch where pets go after applying these products and follow manufacturer's instructions.

**Hot pavement:** If the surface you are walking on is too hot for your bare feet, it's probably uncomfortable for your dog, too. Limit excessive walks in high heat on pavement.

**Dehydration:** Ensure that pets are provided with ample fresh water especially in high temperature. Just like people, dogs may suffer from heat stroke and certain types and breeds are more susceptible: short muzzled, thick coated, very young and very old dogs are most at risk. Do not leave pets unattended in a car, temperatures rise quickly in a closed car.



## Cooper gains relief from immunotherapy

*(continued from page 1)*

Cooper was found to be allergic to a number of items and high on the list? Human dander! So in addition to other allergens (see column, right) Cooper was allergic to people. His custom antigens were formulated to include the other high reaction allergens of certain weeds, trees, grasses, house dust mites and insects.

The success rate for dogs undergoing immunotherapy is about 70%. "We saw improvement rather quickly! He received his first antigen injection on August 11, 2014. We got married on November 2, 2014 and Cooper was our ring bearer. His hair was perfect and he made a great dog model and ring bearer."

There were no problems in giving or receiving the injections; Ted gives Cooper his injection every two weeks now followed by a Milk Bone treat as a reward (Cooper, not Ted). A year later, Cooper is no longer in discomfort and his coat has been restored.



*Pet owner Ted shown here administering the antigen shot to Cooper. Baths and topical treatment used in conjunction with immunotherapy have made Cooper comfortable and happy. Photos courtesy of Jenette and Ted Bloemendaal*

## The Intradermal Allergy Test

*The Southern California intradermal allergy test offered at Animal Dermatology Clinic is a panel of 81 allergens which includes molds, weeds, trees, grasses, insects, and certain animal danders.*

*All clinic locations have a poster identifying the allergens in their geographical area. For instance, citrus pollen is tested in So. Calif. but it is not normally found in great numbers in Indiana, therefore it is not included in that area's skin test. Note that even though you may not see these allergens in your neighborhood, pollens can become air borne and travel for miles to irritate an allergic pet.*

*After the patient is injected with each of the allergens, the doctor evaluates the reactions on a scale of 1 to 4, with 4 indicating the highest level of allergic reaction.*

*The doctor evaluates the skin test reactions within 15 minutes. The patient can then start the allergy injections the next day.*

*Cooper's test results showed high reaction to:*

*Human dander*

*Malassezia (mold)*

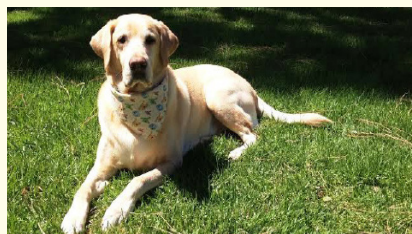
*Grasses: Bermuda, Orchard, Rye*

*Trees: Box elder, Olive, Elm*

*Weeds: Lamb's quarter, Russian thistle, Dock*

*Dust mite*

*His antigen formula contains the very same things that makes him itchy, but by slowly over time introducing the allergen into his body, his immune system begins to develop tolerance to the allergen thus preventing a release of inflammatory mediators which creates the itch sensation. No itch, no scratching.*



*Cooper, July 2015 one year after beginning immunotherapy.*

## New Residents Join Animal Dermatology Clinic

*Four veterinarians will begin their residency programs at Animal Dermatology Clinic*

Residents are veterinarians enrolled in a three-year dermatology training program in preparation to sit for the board certifying exam to become a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Dermatology. The residents participate in extensive study and review and clinical case management.

Additionally, dermatology residents are required to conduct a research study with published results. The program culminates with a two-day examination for those who have successfully completed the required curriculum. Successful candidates passing the exam are granted Diplomate status.

Animal Dermatology Clinic was the first private referral dermatology practice to be approved to offer a residency program. Since then, 24 veterinarians have completed the program at Animal Dermatology Clinic and all of them have become boarded veterinary dermatologists.

The new residents are:

Dr. Nellie Choi who is currently working at the Perth, Australia location until October when she starts at ADC - Pasadena, CA

Dr. Alicia Webb Milum will be working predominately at ADC - Tustin, CA.

Dr. Austin Richman's home clinic will be ADC - Marina del Rey, CA.

Dr. Meagan Rock will be located at Vet Healing Arts in Rhode Island.

There are now 10 residents at Animal Dermatology Clinic.

## Animal Dermatology Clinic opens location in Sydney, Australia

Animal Dermatology Clinic continues expansion in the Pacific Asia region with the opening of a location in Sydney, Australia. The clinic is located at the University of Sydney veterinary hospital. Dr. Beth McDonald BVSc (Hons), MVSt, MACVS, DiplACVD will be the veterinary dermatologist receiving cases in Sydney assisted by Ms. Vokina Ng who will be handling front office duties.

Dr. McDonald graduated with honors from Sydney University in 1988. From 1989 to 1995 she worked at North Shore Veterinary Hospital in Sydney. During that time she completed a Masters in Veterinary Studies through Murdoch University and also gained her Membership in Small Animal Medicine with the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists.

In 1995, she began a residency in veterinary dermatology at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. In 1998 she became a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Dermatology and has since worked as a registered specialist both in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory.

Sydney and its surrounding communities make it the largest metropolitan area in Australia and now joins Perth and Auckland, New Zealand as part of the Pacific Asia group of clinics of Animal Dermatology Clinic.

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**Events happening in your area!** Please verify dates and times as schedules may have been modified or cancelled. Unless stated, Animal Dermatology Clinic does not have affiliation to these events and are listed only for informational purposes.

## Fort Wayne, IN

**September 19, 2015 3:30PM to 6PM**

Franke Park, Pavillion #2

2nd Annual Fort Wayne Picnic, inviting clients of Animal Dermatology Clinic. Come and join us for an afternoon of food and fun and meet fellow pet owners in Ft. Wayne Please RSVP to 317-578-7773.

## Louisville, KY

**September 26, 2015 8AM to 3PM**

The Annual Bark in the Park is a celebration of all things canine. Each September, The Animal Care Society welcomes the general public to one of Metro Louisville's most popular green spaces – Seneca Park. Participate in the 5K, hang out with your dog(s) by the kiddie pools, munch on pizza and hot dogs, participate in fun contests, learn about rescue organizations and animal-friendly businesses nearby, and meet tons of amazing animal lovers right here in Louisville!

## Pasadena, CA

**September 27, 2015 8AM to 1PM**

Brookside Park 480 N Arroyo Blvd. Pasadena, CA

Admission: Free

Benefiting: Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA

Join thousands of animal lovers and their canine companions for the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA's 17th Annual Wiggle Waggle Walk – a community fundraiser for animals! The walk is the shelter's biggest fundraising event of the year with the help of committed and caring people just like you! Registration is free and fundraising is encouraged! Your efforts help provide quality food, safe shelter, and veterinary care for the 12,000 animals the Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA cares for every year. Register today at [www.wigglewagglewalk.org](http://www.wigglewagglewalk.org) or call 626-792-7151 ext.167.

## San Diego, CA

**August 22, 2015 9AM to 4PM**

NTC PARK at Liberty Station

2455 Cushing Road San Diego, CA

Admission: Free to the public

Join us at Doggie Street Festival this not-to-be missed dog and cat adopt-a-thon and fun celebration of our companion animals presents fantastic pet products & services, yummy eats, vet tips, speakers, music, kids area, auction prizes and much more! Bring your friendly dog. Sponsor-Volunteer-Support. Together we can do good for our dogs and cats! For more information, please call 323-445-5087 or email [doggiestreet@gmail.com](mailto:doggiestreet@gmail.com).

## Los Angeles, CA

**September 19, 2015 10AM to 4PM**

Doggie Street Festival

Westwood Recreation Center

1350 S. Sepulveda Blvd

(South of Federal Bldg. on Sepulveda Bl.)

Los Angeles, CA, 90025 323-445-5087

See information above, same as San Diego

## Atlanta, GA

**September 20, 2015 1:30PM**

Turner Field, 755 Hank Aaron Drive SE

Atlanta, GA

Admission: Combo Tickets \$32

Buy a special ticket for man's best friend to come to the game with you at Turner Field! Ticket packages include a Braves themed dog bowl and a specified dog friendly play area at the ballpark.

For more information, please call 866-800-1275.