

# EPIDERMAL *Journal*

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## FROM PAPER TO PRACTICE

### Special points of interest:

Cox A., Defalque V., Udenberg T., et al. Detection of DNA from undeclared animal species in commercial canine and feline raw meats using qPCR. Abstract presented at the North American Veterinary Dermatology Forum held in Austin, Texas in April 2019.

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Welcome to the first issue of the Epidermal Journal. Our mission is to highlight for you, on a quarterly basis, some of the new clinically applicable research in veterinary dermatology. With 21 locations nationwide, located in 7 different states, we at Dermatology for Animals are passionate about helping small and large animals with their skin diseases. To us, that also means sharing our knowledge of dermatology with you. We recently attended the North American Veterinary Dermatology Forum, held in Austin, Texas between April 10-14, 2019, and we saw some very exciting and promising new research, including the one featured below. Feel free to reach out any time to your local Dermatology for Animals clinic to pick our brains about some of the other abstracts presented there or talk about any of your challenging dermatology cases!



## PITFALLS OF USING RAW DIETS IN DIET TRIALS

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### From Paper....

Currently, the best diagnostic procedure to identify cutaneous adverse food reactions in dogs and cats is an elimination diet trial with subsequent provocation trial(s). These elimination diet trials can be performed with diets containing novel or hydrolyzed protein ingredients. Several previous studies have demonstrated the presence of unlabeled or mislabeled ingredients in commercially-prepared, cooked diets (including those labeled as limited ingredient), which have the potential to interfere with an elimination diet trial. Despite evidence of both veterinary and zoonotic health risks, commercial raw meat-based diets have been gaining popularity with pet owners, with some pet owners desiring also to use them for an elimination diet



## PITFALLS OF USING RAW DIETS IN DIET TRIALS, CONTINUED...



*“Every animal has his or her story, his or her thoughts, daydreams, and interests...”*

trial. However, the reliability of raw meat-based diets for this purpose has not been investigated. This study evaluated whether there was unlabeled or unexpected animal origin DNA in nine over-the-counter raw meat-based diets from different companies. The authors used PCR to evaluate for species-specific DNA (chicken, duck, turkey, pork, rabbit, beef, salmon, kangaroo, and lamb). They also evaluated two separate batches of each diet to assess content consistency. DNA of

one or more unlabeled animal-source proteins was found in the majority of both canine and feline diets (89% of canine and 61% of feline batches). The majority of the time (78% of canine diets, and 56% of feline diets), there were also discrepancies in the DNA identified between two batches of a given diet. The most frequently unlisted animal species DNA was lamb in canine diets and turkey in feline diets. Similar to previous studies that evaluated commercially prepared

(cooked) over-the-counter diets, the results of this study showed that unlabeled ingredients can be commonly found in raw diets. This study also showed that, within a given diet, the animal species content may vary between batches. Presuming these 9 diets are representative of the over-the-counter raw meat-based diet options in general, these results suggest that over-the-counter raw meat-based diets should not be used in elimination diet trials.

## To Practice....

Because of the potential for unlabeled animal source protein ingredients between different over-the-counter-raw meat-based diets and even within different batches of the same diet, over-the-counter raw meat-based diets cannot be recommended for elimination diet trials at this time.



## About Dermatology for Animals

Your clients' pets are susceptible to hundreds of skin disorders throughout his or her life. In order for pet parents to get their pet the best dermatological care, the doctors and team at Dermatology for Animals strive to provide compassionate state-of-the-art veterinary dermatology therapies. We tailor to the needs of the pet and pet parent. We offer modern

veterinary facilities which are designed to treat pets as efficiently and comfortably as possible.

The highly qualified veterinarians at Dermatology for Animals have years of experience treating animals with dermatological diseases. We are able to offer and discuss a wide range of treatment options for most conditions.

We strive to improve the quality of your patient's life by offering compassionate and courteous specialized animal dermatological care.

Call us today at (877) 604-8366 to discuss a case or schedule an appointment.



## Meet Our New Residents...



We'd like to introduce our first year residents, Dr. Frost and Dr. Harbour. They are already passionate about dermatology, and we can't wait to see where the next three years take them!

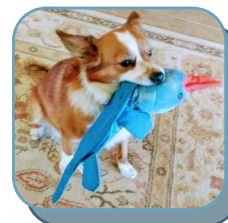
The residency program with Dermatology for Animals is a three-year program that trains students (veterinarians) in veterinary dermatology. Upon successful completion of the residency program, a residents will have met the milestones which are required for eligibility to sit for his or her board certification examination in veterinary dermatology.

Dermatology for Animals is continually seeking new residents, so please don't hesitate to reach out!

## Upcoming Veterinary Dermatology Conferences

World Congress Dermatology ([wavd.org](http://wavd.org))  
The 9th World Congress for Veterinary Dermatology  
Sydney, Australia— October 20-24, 2020

North American Veterinary Dermatology Forum (NAVDF)  
New Orleans—April 21-24, 2021





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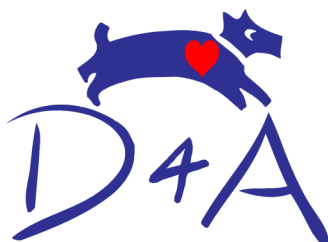


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Dermatology for Animals welcomes your comments on our Epidermal Journal. Please e-mail your feedback to:  
d4amarketing@gmail.com

Contact us if you would like additional copies.



**WE'RE GROWING!**

In 1991, Dr. Lewis founded the Dermatology Clinic for Animals (later Dermatology for Animals) with offices in Mesa and Tucson, Arizona, as well as in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Within three years, clinics were added in Utah, Texas and Nebraska. It was the first time most residents of these areas had access to board-certified veterinary dermatologists who could treat their afflicted pets.

**21 LOCATIONS NATIONWIDE**

Akron, OH 330.238.1820	Coeur d'Alene, ID 208.944.0377	Omaha, NE 402.238.1240	Tucson, AZ 520.888.3177
Aptos/Soquel, CA 831.531.0090	Gilbert, AZ 480.633.2277	Rochester, NY 585.286.1050	Walnut Creek, CA 925.239.2929
Albuquerque, NM 505.881.7205	Girard, OH 330.752.6598	Salt Lake City, UT 801.942.3937	Williston, VT 802.321.2500
Avondale, AZ 623.792.6310	Latham, NY 518.634.1913	Santa Fe, NM 505.474.4380	
Campbell, CA 408.871.3800	Lincoln, NE 402.216.0940	Scottsdale, AZ 480.443.0679	
Cleveland, OH 216.454.2266	Oakland, CA 510.226.7477	Spokane, WA 509.327.8220	

**New Location! Coeur d'Alene, Idaho**

**State-of-the-Art Pet Dermatological Care**

Allergy and skin problems can be a source of major discomfort for your patients. Even worse, certain skin problems can be zoonotic. Fortunately, Dermatology for Animals is fully equipped to take care of a wide range of pet dermatological issues. In each state-of-the-art facility your patient will have access to a range of services and tests, all administered by veterinary specialists with the experience and skill needed to care for your client and their pets.



**Now Open!**

Coeur d'Alene, Idaho  
Emergency Veterinary Hospital  
1336 W. Kathleen Ave.  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815  
Phone: 208.944.0377