

Safety and efficacy of two accelerated schedules of subcutaneous allergen immunotherapy in canine atopic dermatitis.

Ramió-Lluch L¹, Puigdemont A².

¹ Animal Health B.U., Laboratorios LETI, S.L.U., Barcelona (Spain).

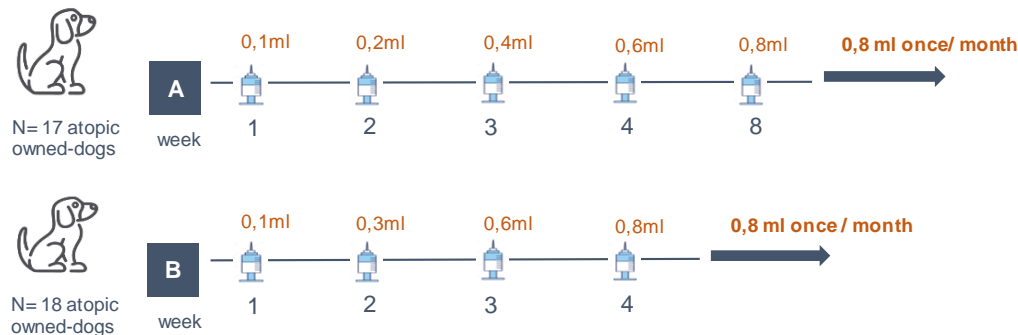
² Dept. Farmacologia, Terapèutica i Toxicologia, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, (Spain).

BACKGROUND: Allergen specific immunotherapy (ASIT) is nowadays the only specific treatment for canine atopic dermatitis. However, it is a long lasting treatment and compliance is a critical point for its effectiveness. **The reduction of the induction period could allow obtaining a quicker initial response with an important impact in owner compliance.** However, the efficacy and safety of these quick administration schedules need to be confirmed.

OBJECTIVE: The purpose of this study was to evaluate the clinical improvement and side effects of two different ASIT induction accelerated schedules in atopic dogs.

METHODS:

* **TREATMENT:** Subcutaneous ASIT (Letivet Retard, Laboratorios LETI, Spain). Only VIAL C.



* **EVALUATION:** Clinical efficacy score (Canine Atopic Dermatitis Extent and Severity Index CADESI-4) and adverse reactions were recorded after each administration during 6 months.

RESULTS: Regarding efficacy, after 6 months of treatment, CADESI significantly decreased in both groups ($p < 0.001$).

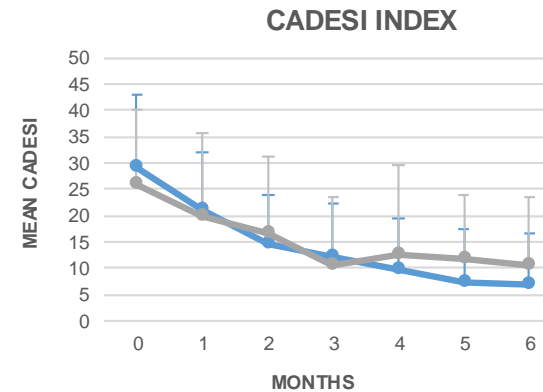


Figure 1. CADESI mean evolution ($X \pm SD$) in protocol A (in blue; $n=17$) and protocol B (in grey; $n=18$).

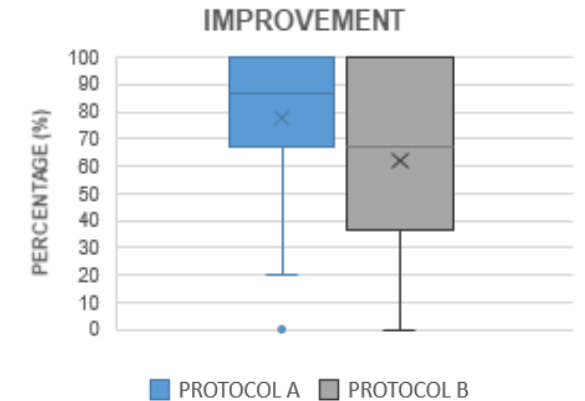


Figure 2. Box plot representing the improving (%) in each protocol after 6 months.

Table 1. Adverse events for each accelerated ASIT protocol

	N	Adverse Events	Duration	Severity	Frequency
PROTOCOL A	1	Diarrhea	24h	Mild	1st injection
PROTOCOL B	1	Increase in pruritus	24h	Mild	1st, 2nd and 3th injections
	1	Diarrhea and polyuria	24h	Mild	1st injection

Regarding safety, mild adverse reactions were recorded in only three animals as described in Table 1.

The use of a single concentration vial and the reduced time of protocol induction were important improvements for both protocols.

CONCLUSION: High rates of efficacy and safety were achieved in both studied schedules. Therefore, accelerated protocols are excellent options to facilitate subcutaneous ASIT treatments improving the compliance in atopic dogs.