

Home cooked novel protein elimination diet

DOGS

Cook red or green lentils, cooked in large pot as per packet directions

Per Kg of cooked lentils, add

- 500gm boiled potatoes cut up
- 500gm Kangaroo meat in cubes, boiled in water (add with the gravy)
- ¼ tsp salt

How much and how long

Feed 1-2 cups per 10kg 2x day for 6-8 weeks then re-challenge with normal food. If all scratching stops AND your pet is not using corticosteroids, you can re-challenge earlier

Alternatively, Prime Pet Foods (www.primepetfood.com.au) produce a kangaroo and potato roll (SK D200). The company has assured me that it is free of other meats and gluten.

CATS

Cats can have just raw or cooked rabbit or kangaroo meat for the test period. The meat must not contain sulphide-type preservatives.

Human consumption meat is best. Macro Meats (www.macromeats.com.au) supply human consumption grade kangaroo mince via Coles and other outlets.

Commercial dry and canned low allergen foods

Hydrolysed low allergy canned/dry foods, as sold in Vet Clinics, are suitable in for use in an elimination trial in some cases. Some animals that are allergic to the base protein (chicken +/-soy) may still react to the low allergy food due to incomplete destruction of the allergen sites. Cave NJ , 2006 (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17085233>)

I have seen several cases where dogs and cats will tolerate a home-cooked elimination diet but will react to a commercial hydrolysed low allergen diet.

Re-challenge

To diagnose a food based reaction or allergy, we must try your normal food and see if we get an increase in itch and redness. Dogs and cats with food reactions will show a **marked** relapse within 1 week of re-challenge, often in the first few days.

Notes:

1. This is a test diet. It is deficient in calcium, other minerals and vitamins and can NOT be used long term
2. Large breed growing dogs need added calcium: 1tsp calcium carbonate and 1 tsp calcium phosphate per kilogram of mixed food
3. The kangaroo meat should ideally be human consumption standard. If pet shop meat, preservative free meat is preferred due to potential toxicity. Pet shop mince should never be used as it may be contaminated with beef/chicken.
4. Weight loss may occur. If excessive, increase quantity or add some safflower or sunflower oil and increase the quantity fed
5. If your dog has had kangaroo meat before, or does not tolerate it, horse meat can be obtained from Laverton Pet Supplies in Victoria. Alternatively, fresh rabbit can be minced by a butcher. The mincer MUST be free of other meat contamination.

If we get a positive re-challenge reaction, restart the test diet and we will work out what **BALANCED** foods your pet can eat.