

# Neutralization of an Allergen in Cat Hair and Dander through a Cat Food Diet

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## Abstract

Allergies to cats are the most common animal-origin allergy and affect about 1 in 5 adults worldwide. More 96% of people with sensitivities to cat respond to the primary cat allergen, Fel d1, a protein secreted in the saliva and sebaceous secretions of the cat. Allergen avoidance is the most effective solution; it however involves limiting interaction with the cat or in some cases relinquishing the cat. Effectiveness of allergen immunotherapy for cat allergies is debatable. There is a need for innovative approaches to manage cat allergens.

We will discuss the scientific basis of a novel approach to safely neutralize Fel d, the most potent feline allergen, utilizing an anti-Fel d1 IgY antibodies (derived from chicken egg) added to cat diet. Efficacy of a feline diet with an egg product ingredient containing anti-Fel d 1 IgY antibodies *in vitro*, *ex vivo*, and *in vivo*, and further validated by a pilot exposure study involving cat-allergic human participants will be discussed.