



ADVANCE DERMATOLOGY  
MARY-JANE VANCE  
SMALL ANIMAL DERMATOLOGIST

## ADVANCE DERMATOLOGY LTD

**Small Animal Dermatologist**  
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Advanced Practitioner in Small Animal Dermatology

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### **What to expect during the dermatology consultation**

The initial consultation lasts one hour. It is important to take the time to discuss all concerns during the initial dermatology consultation. This ensures I have all the relevant information in order to make the correct diagnosis and start an appropriate treatment plan.

Before you arrive, I will review your pet's medical history.

Firstly, we will sit down and go through the dermatology referral form. This is important as it allows me to gain more information about your pet and their skin condition. We will discuss main concerns, areas affected, your pet's daily routine, general health, diet, parasite treatment and response to treatment previously given.

A full examination will then be performed, checking not only the skin but all areas of your pet. We will then discuss possible causes of your pet's skin problem. There may be several possibilities therefore requiring further investigation in order to try and get to the root of the problem. Unfortunately, one single test often doesn't give us all the answers, so multiple may be required. Tests may include skin scrapes, tape strips, swabs, hair plucks, fungal cultures, blood samples, intradermal allergy testing, ear flushing and biopsies. There are many tests that can be done during the consultation and where possible we will do these during the initial consultation and have results there and then. However, some tests take a bit longer and need to be booked in for a later date.

Once we have the results of these investigations, we will discuss diagnosis and make a treatment plan. It is important to discuss the treatment options together and make a plan that everybody is happy with. As the owner a lot of treatments need to be given by you at home, therefore it is important that this fits in with your daily routine. Please ask questions and let me know if there are any parts of the treatment plan you think may not be possible.

Follow up consultations usually last 30 minutes. During this time, we will discuss progress made. I may recheck samples previously taken to assess progress. We will then adjust treatment plan as required.