

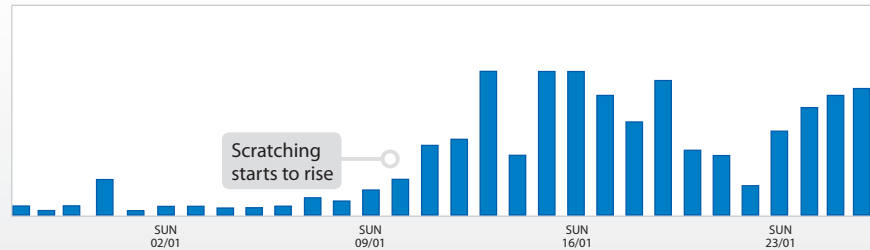
Case study: Atopy monitoring with HeyrexPro

The following case study outlines the HeyrexPro monitoring of a 2 year old, male neutered, crossbreed with hypersensitivity to *Tradescantia fluminensis* (Wandering Jew).

Increase in scratching

Following exposure to *Tradescantia fluminensis* on 9 January the patient displayed a marked increase in scratching, easily identified by reference to the long term scratching graph on HeyrexPro.

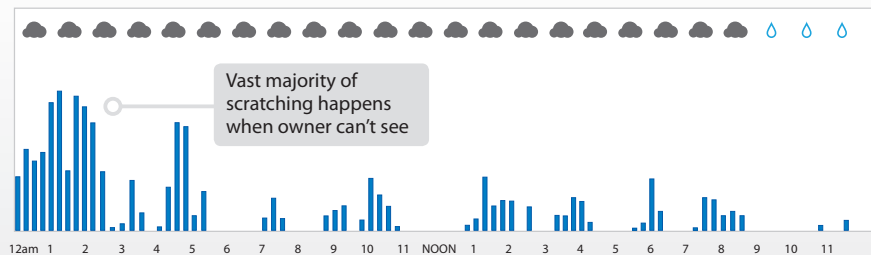
Long term view: scratching



Nocturnal scratching profile

Reference to a single 24 hour period during this episode revealed that the majority of scratching occurred between the hours of midnight and 6am, rendering it difficult for owners to detect but again easy to recognise using HeyrexPro.

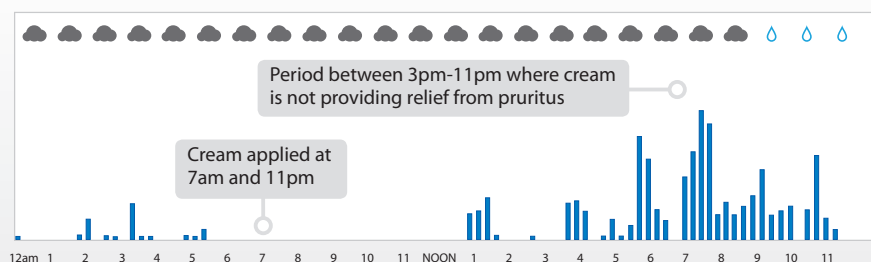
Daily view: scratching



Treatment has insufficient duration

Treatment was instigated, comprising BID applications of topical steroid cream to the affected areas. Treatment efficiency was monitored via HeyrexPro revealing that BID applications of cream were not providing total relief from pruritus.

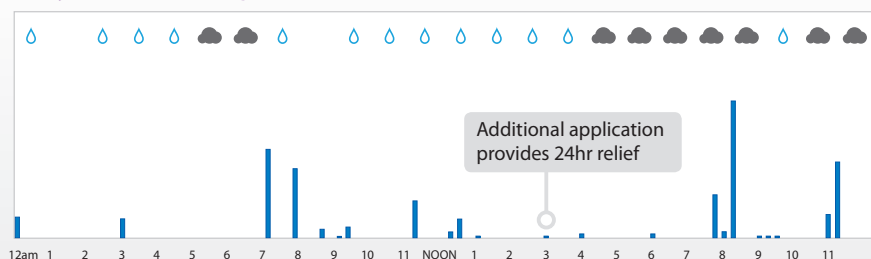
Daily view: scratching



Treatment adjustment with Heyrex

Based on evidence from the HeyrexPro graphs, treatment was modified to TID applications which provided 24 hour relief from symptoms.

Daily view: scratching





History

A 31 kg 2 year old brindle Bull Terrier cross presented with pruritus and erythema. The dog was wearing a Heyrex biosensor fitted to the collar that monitored scratching activity. The sensor clearly showed that scratching started around the 9th of January and apart from a single low level on 22nd January had continued.

Examination of the daily scratch patterns showed that most of the scratching activity occurred between midnight and 06:00hrs. Scratching was severely disruptive to sleep during this period.

Veterinary examination

The veterinary examination revealed severe papular eruptions ventrally. There was severe interdigital erythema with palmar ulceration accompanied by muzzle erythema. There was also mild periocular erythema and moderate to severe purulent conjunctivitis, especially around the left eye. There was suspected *Tradescantia fluminensis* (Wandering Jew) hypersensitivity. Other hypersensitivity, with secondary infection, was also certainly possible.

Cytology of a skin biopsy from the groin revealed no significant findings. Cytology from the feet revealed 2-4 yeasts per oil immersion field. A skin scraping was negative for Demodex. A *Tradescantia* test patch caused significant erythema and a marked increase in scratching as measured by the Heyrex digital event logger worn by the dog.

Response to treatment

At the conclusion of the first veterinary consult the patient was given an injection of Dexamethasone. This improved the skin colour but had little effect on the scratching activity. The challenge with *Tradescantia* increased scratching activity to the highest level recorded in this dog. On the 11th February the client administered topical cream to the ventral surface which decreased scratching activity immediately.

Examination of the daily scratching activity patterns shows that the cream gave relief for around 8 hours following application last thing at night and before the caregiver left the house in the morning. The scratching patterns over the day show that the dog started scratching late in the afternoon and would benefit from another application when the caregiver got home from work. This was instigated and the beneficial relief was clear.