

Switching allergen extracts from one manufacturer to another

Q The Drs are considering switching from Greer dog antigen to HollisterStier AP dog but are not sure how to alter existing formulas since the HS dog is supposedly much more potent. I have heard lectures by Dr. Hal Nelson on the subject but cannot locate the information. I would appreciate any information on this subject. Thank you.

A Thank you for your recent inquiry. I am not personally aware of any standardized formula that one can apply to switch extracts between manufacturers. In our practice we usually consider dropping the concentration one or two dilutions. However, I am going to ask Dr. Harold Nelson who, as you know, is an internationally recognized expert in immunotherapy, for his thoughts on this matter. I will send his response to you as soon as we receive it.

Thank you again for your inquiry and we hope this response is helpful to you.

Sincerely,
Phil Lieberman MD

Response from Dr. Harold Nelson

On an average, the HS AP dog is 35 times more potent than the usual dog extract by major allergen content. Therefore I would recommend starting off with a separate injection from a vial which is a ten-fold dilution of the projected maintenance concentration of the AP dog and building it up to maintenance dose, then merging the AP dog with the remainder of the treatment set. As an example: If the eventual dose of AP dog in the 10-mL maintenance vial is to be 2 mL and the maintenance injection is 0.5 mL, I would mix a vial with 2 mL of AP dog and 8 mL of diluent. Next I would make a 10-fold dilutions (1:10 v/v). The starting dose would be 0.05 mL of the 1:10 v/v. After this had been built up to 0.5 mL, I would begin with 0.05 mL of the full strength (1:1 v/v) maintenance concentration and build this up to 0.5 mL. At that point, would add the 2 mL of AP dog to the 10 mL maintenance vial and continue dosing at 0.5 mL. I hope this is reasonably clear.

Regards,
Harold Nelson MD