

5Strands[®] Affordable Pet Testing Case Study Outline

We appreciate your feedback regarding your experience with 5Strands[®] Affordable Pet Testing! Please also provide a before and after photo of your pet! We understand that by providing this information you are granting permission for us to share your story on 5Strands[®] Affordable Testing's websites, social media and in marketing materials.

Pet's Name: Angel Born 2-28-2016 Deaf and Rescued in June 2016.

Pet's Breed & Sex: Great Dane Female Spayed

Describe condition of pet and/or symptoms before using Affordable Testing.

I'm going to start at the beginning here as all of this pertains to what brought us to 5Strands. We adopted Angel as a 9 month old puppy from a rescue, knowing that she was deaf and shy. She was TERRIFIED of everyone. We brought her home and it was all we could do to get her into the house. She didn't poop or eat for two days. She peed on her tail in the back yard. She has NEVER eliminated on leash. Over the next year or so, we watched her warm up to people that visited the house often. When she was stressed, she didn't eat. She was scrawny when we returned from vacation, but otherwise just fine. I got her teeth cleaned 1-31-2018. She aspirated while she was under, so the vet gave her meds for pneumonia and said she may not be interested in food right away. After 48 hours of not eating, we put her on anti nausea and appetite stimulant drugs. Anytime she ate, she vomited everywhere. I changed her food several times but she kept vomiting and she was getting thin. After nearly a month, I took her to a specialist who ran a camera down her throat and she had esophageal strictures and lots of inflammation in her GI tract. The released the 10cm long stricture by prodding with the camera and sent us home with meds. We did this twice more over the course of a month before going to another specialist and having a balloon and feeding tube installed in her throat. For another 6 weeks, we pumped up the balloon morning and night, fed her orally and through the tube, and gave her TONS of meds. We had a couple of life threatening complications, but Angel made it through it all and the devices were removed with the diagnoses that her throat was healed and healthy, but there was still a small stricture. A week and a half later, Angel began choking on her food again. The specialist couldn't do anything more for her for fear of rupturing her esophagus. She has a stricture low in her throat that is 1CM. Think the size of a paper hole punch. The rest of her throat is 3CM. We started feeding her watered down prescription canned food only and hoped for the best. She did well and after a couple months, decided she wasn't going to eat anymore. She was likely bored with the flavor, but we were told to keep her on the single source protein. I added a commercial food in small amounts and that got her eating again. I also made bone broth to top her bowl and she liked that too. Over time, the supplemental food became the main source. We needed her to eat to keep the stomach acid down (along with the 4 Omeprazole a day) because the stomach

acid in her throat is what caused the strictures to begin with. The large amount of commercial food finally affected her stool too much so I did the intolerance testing. There was no way I could introduce and eliminate enough different foods to figure out the problem without causing more issues in a very delicate GI system.

What type of food was your pet eating prior to testing (i.e. kibble, raw, frozen, freeze dried, etc.)?

Angel was on Royal Canin Duck and American Journey Duck-both canned plus homemade chicken bone broth

Describe the results of *Affordable Testing* (i.e. number and/or examples of items reported as intolerances, insight gained, etc.).

Angel had several intolerances. We would have never guessed that she had a problem with peas, sweet potatoes, tocopherols (Vitamin E added to all dog food), Brown rice and polyphosphates (added to the municipal water supply)

What elimination plan did you implement (i.e. foods eliminated and/or changes in environment, timeframe, etc.)?

We put Angel back on the Royal Canin and switched out the American Journey Duck for Crave Chicken Pate. She gets a 3:1 ratio Royal to Crave plus a bit of cooked mushy white rice plus a couple oz of broth per day. We are also purchasing a few gallons a week of spring water that hasn't been treated. We use this for her drinking and food mixing water as well as making the rice and bone broth.

Describe condition of pet and/or symptoms after the elimination plan.

Her stools firmed up and she hasn't had a problem yet after 3 weeks!

What is your impression of the *Affordable Testing* process and results of the elimination plan (i.e. length of time to receive results, quality of customer service, value of information gained, etc.)? I really appreciate what this test has done for Angel's quality of life as well as ours. Picking up Great Dane stool is a big job anyway and it's much easier when it's not gloppy soup! The results arrived within 2 weeks and customer service follow up has been fantastic. I have already recommended it to a handful of friends. I gained information through this simple test that may have added years to my dog's life.