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## 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: Dorrie

Pet's Breed & Sex: Boston Terrier/F

Describe condition of pet and/or symptoms before using *Affordable Testing*. She was constantly itchy, with bumps/hives & flaky skin on a daily basis. Some of the bumps resulted in little bald spots.

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

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

She triggered for SO many things! A few of the proteins we were aware of, as we had tried another allergy test (saliva) before. This confirmed some of those, but also showed many other things – some that she was currently eating as snacks (strawberries!) and common ingredients like wheat flour, barley, potato that are in many foods/snacks.

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

We tried eliminating the Level 3s (red) first, and whatever we could from the Level 2s (yellow). There were so many items listed, it was a little overwhelming at first. But as time went by, I got used to searching the ingredient list on everything for any items on the Level 3/2 list. (We decided to not worry about the Level 1s (green) as much for now)

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

2 months went by, with little/no difference. A few weeks ago our vet recommended a medicated shampoo, as she had a slight skin infection, and that seemed to help. Now, after 3 months, the

itching as decreased dramatically. The bumps/hives are virtually gone. One will pop up here and there, but we have gone a week with no hives! Such a huge difference from 3 months ago.

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.)? The testing process is as simple as it can possibly be, and results are obtained quickly. In our case, because she triggered so for many items, there was a point of frustration/exasperation – what is she going to eat?! But of course I wouldn't want to give her anything that may cause any kind of adverse reaction, even if it is just some itchiness. And again, as time went by, it has just become routine that I watch her like a hawk (people always try to feed her!) & check all ingredients before giving her anything. It truly is valuable information to have – knowing what to avoid and not having to guess.