



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: **SaNim**

Pet's Breed & Sex: **Chocolate Labrador, Female, Spayed**

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

Since a baby, SaNim had skin issues that started at 9 weeks and as she got older, they only got worse. My vet and myself tried everything and nothing worked, and SaNim only continued to get worse. SaNim lost all her hair and always had horrible red bumps all over her tummy, on top of her ears, in between her toes, on her back and under her tail. She could never rest as constantly itching, scratching, chewing. SaNim could never rest and I felt horrible for her, because if this was how her young life was to start out, what was she going to be when older.

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

Kibble and chicken

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

SaNim was found with 82 intolerances in Level 3 alone. I was stunned!

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

I went through her kibble, treats, shampoos, and as the only protein she could eat was chicken, luckily she had been having that before, but now realized that no chicken skin, fat, broth could be had.

I finally found a hills dry kibble after going through every dog food available here, that wasn't perfect, but has worked thus far.

My pest control company, I have changed their methods.

Any medicines, I now check their ingredients.

This test also found out that SaNim was lacking in Histidine, which female dogs need and Vitamin B12. My vet has helped me to remedy.

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

SaNim's hair has grown back in and is now thick, curly, wavy and shiny. We still have small issues on her tummy, but I know that her kibble is not 100% a sure thing but the health, spirit of the dog has just changed so tremendously, and I'm so thankful for these tests.

Additionally, these tests were an eye opener for my vet and helped her to understand that I was not neurotic about my dog and that just like people, dogs can be allergic to food groups as well.

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.)?

Well, I live in Thailand and ordered the test from Amazon that came with no problems and getting the hair sample wasn't hard to do, just finding enough hair to send was the issue. But the test kit shipping instructions used, had a microfilm envelope to send the sample back in. This caused issues with customs. While I got it out of Thailand, after going down to speak to them, US customs refused to deliver even though clearly marked dog hair sample. All the while, I had contacted the 5 Strands offices and they were so helpful. So, I sent another sample to them, less the microfilm envelope. Upon receipt, as I had waited so long, they quickly processed SaNim's sample and sent the results by email. I was shocked as I printed out 10 pages Of Level 1-3 intolerances, simply, mind boggling; 82 intolerances alone, in Level 3.

At all times, I have found 5 Strands to be nothing but helpful with any responses or suggestions to my email queries. Really, could not find a nicer company to work with, and I have to say a special note of appreciation to Melissa, who has been extremely helpful.