

TABLE 6**Antipruritic and Anti-inflammatory Medications for Cats**

Drug Name	Cyclosporine ¹	Glucocorticoids ²
Mode of action	Calcineurin inhibitor that modulates T-cell function	Influences gene expression of proinflammatory cytokines
Administration	PO q 24 hr	PO Injectable not recommended
Time to onset	4–6 wk	Hours
Age	>6 mo	Any
Weight	>1.4 kg	Any
Health restrictions	History of neoplasia Renal insufficiency	Congestive heart failure Diabetes mellitus Hyperadrenocorticism Hypertension
Adverse reactions	Vomiting Diarrhea Gingival hyperplasia Hypersalivation Lethargy Drug interactions	Polyuria/polydipsia Polyphagia Diabetes mellitus Obesity Muscle wasting Iatrogenic hyperadrenocorticism Congestive heart failure

PO, orally; SC, subcutaneously.

1 Atopica for Cats (cyclosporine oral solution). Package insert. Elanco.

2 Plumb DC. *Plumb's Veterinary Drug Handbook*. 9th ed. Wiley-Blackwell;2018.

Note: Oclacitinib is not labeled for use in cats. Lokivetmab is contraindicated in cats.

The 2023 AAHA Management of Allergic Skin Diseases Guidelines are available at aaha.org/allergic-diseases.

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