### Table 1
**Comparison of antipruritic drugs for dogs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug</th>
<th>Dose</th>
<th>Common side effects</th>
<th>Contraindications</th>
<th>Advantages</th>
<th>Disadvantages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Prednisone or prednisolone | 0.5 to 1 mg/kg daily, taper to lowest effective alternate-day dose as clinical signs permit | • Short-term: increased thirst, urination, appetite, panting  
• Long-term: increased risk of skin or urinary tract infections, hepatopathy, gastrointestinal ulceration | • Diabetes mellitus  
• Hyperadrenocorticism  
• Pancreatitis  
• Gastrointestinal ulceration  
• Renal insufficiency  
• Systemic or widespread cutaneous infections  
• Concurrent nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs | • Inexpensive  
• Widely available  
• Variety of formulations  
• Good efficacy | • Generally unsuitable for long-term use  
• Interferes with intradermal test results |
| Cyclosporine       | 5 mg/kg daily for a minimum of 30 days, taper to lowest effective frequency as clinical signs permit | • Short-term: vomiting, diarrhea  
• Long-term: gingival overgrowth, hypertrichosis* | • Gastrointestinal intolerance  
• History of or active neoplasia | • Few side effects  
• Good efficacy  
• Safe long-term use  
• Does not interfere with intradermal test results | • Slow onset of action  
• Expensive |
| Oclacitinib        | 0.4 to 0.6 mg/kg twice daily for 14 days, then once daily | • Short-term: vomiting, diarrhea, decreased white blood cell count  
• Long-term: none documented to date | • Demodicosis or other infection  
• Neoplasia  
• Less than 12 months of age | • Rapid onset of action  
• Good efficacy  
• Apparent safety of long-term use  
• Does not interfere with intradermal test results | • Lack of independent efficacy and safety data  
• History of limited availability |