SUSPECTED FOOD ALLERGY IN DOGS

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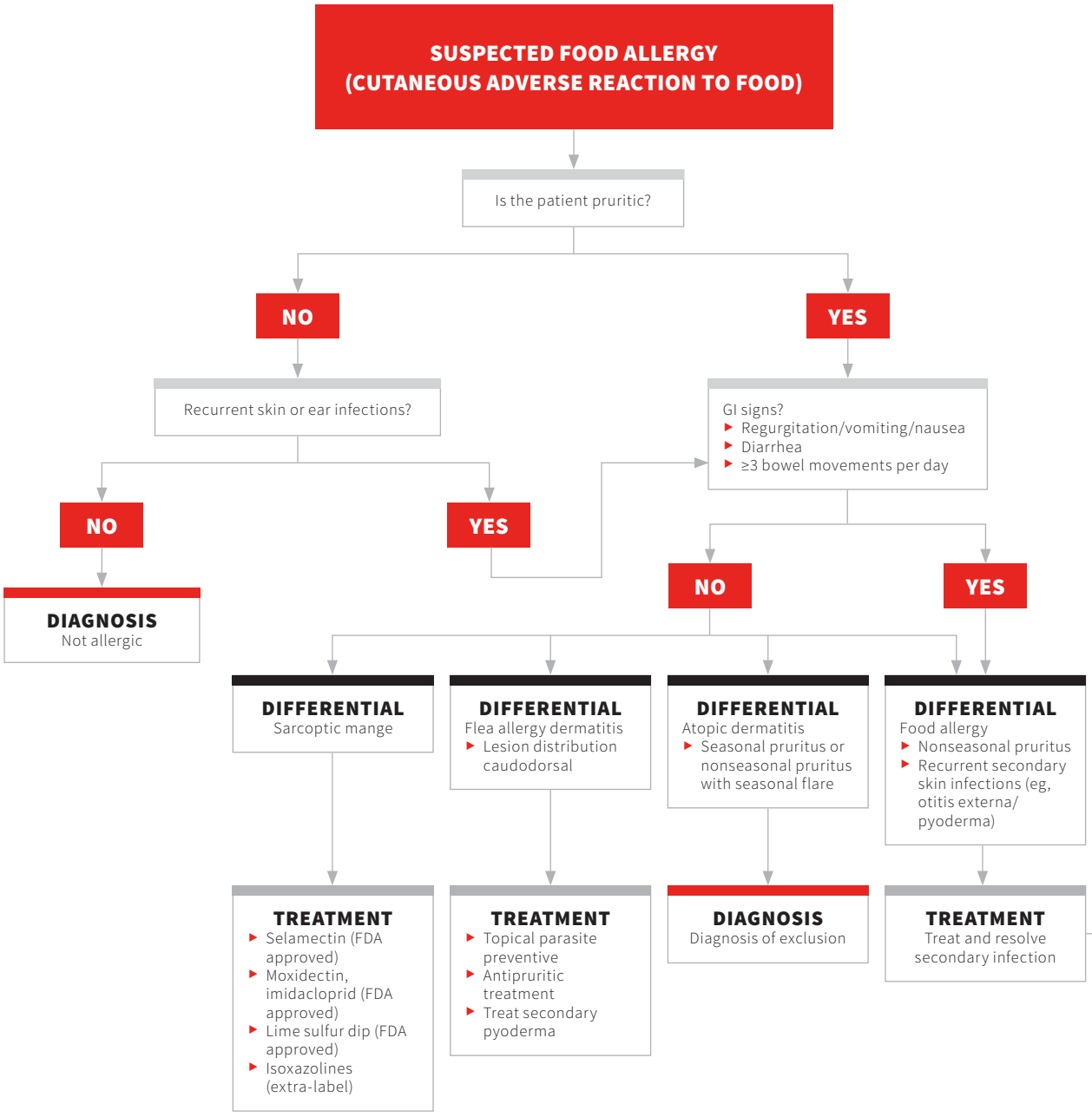

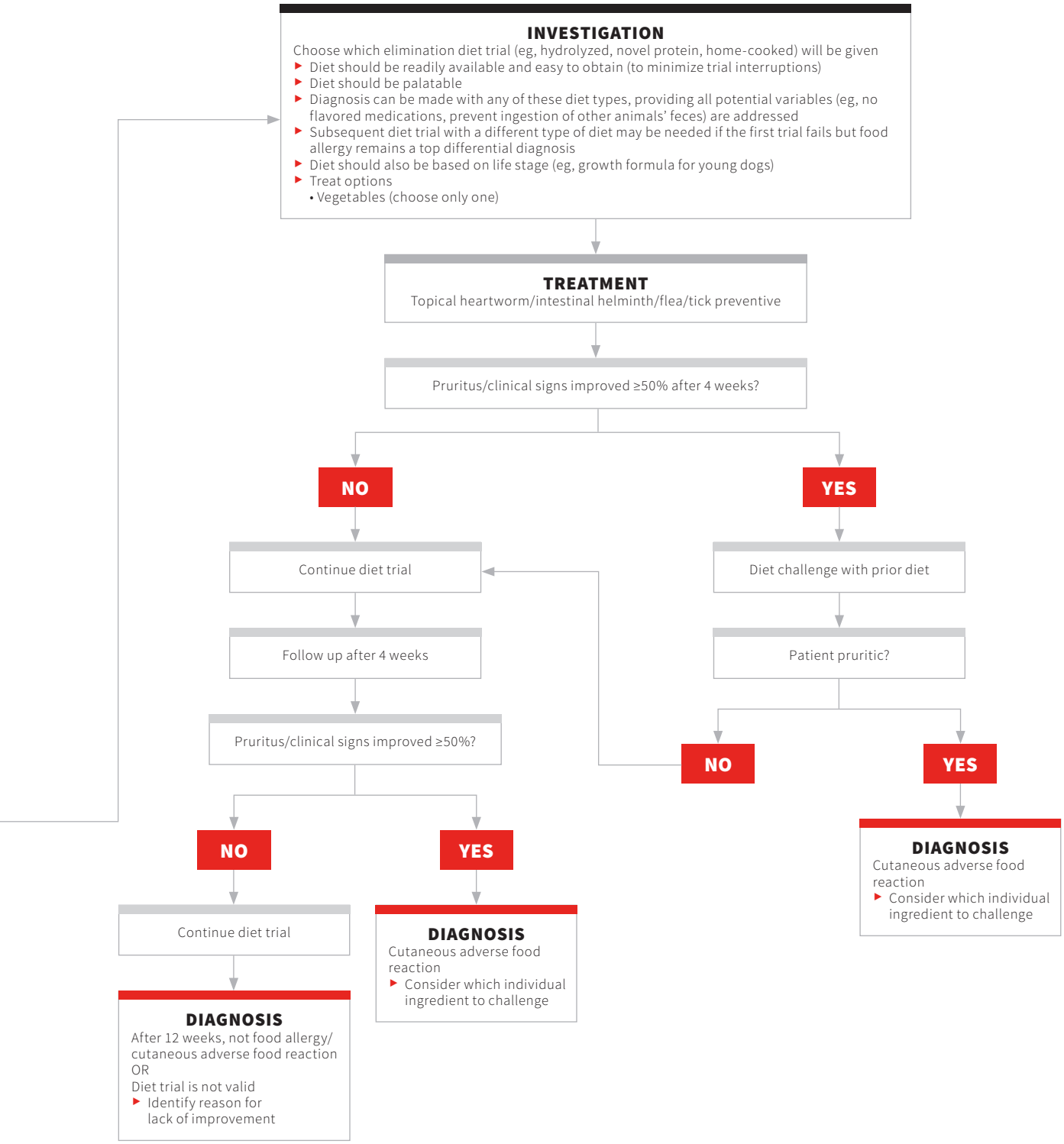
INVESTIGATION
Choose which elimination diet trial (eg, hydrolyzed, novel protein, home-cooked) will be given
Diet should be readily available and easy to obtain (to minimize trial interruptions)
Diet should be palatable
Diagnosis can be made with any of these diet types, providing all potential variables (eg, no flavored medications, prevent ingestion of other animals' feces) are addressed
Subsequent diet trial with a different type of diet may be needed if the first trial fails but food allergy remains a top differential diagnosis
Diet should also be based on life stage (eg, growth formula for young dogs)
Treat options
• Vegetables (choose only one)
TREATMENT
Topical heartworm/intestinal helminth/flea/tick preventive
Pruritus/clinical signs improved ≥50% after 4 weeks?
NO
YES
Continue diet trial
Follow up after 4 weeks
Pruritus/clinical signs improved ≥50%?
NO
YES
Continue diet trial
DIAGNOSIS
After 12 weeks, not food allergy/ cutaneous adverse food reaction
OR
Diet trial is not valid
Identify reason for lack of improvement
DIAGNOSIS
Cutaneous adverse food reaction
Consider which individual ingredient to challenge
Diet challenge with prior diet
Patient pruritic?
NO
YES
DIAGNOSIS
Cutaneous adverse food reaction
Consider which individual ingredient to challenge