



(ii) For many allergic cat lovers, living without a feline companion isn't an option. According to the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (AAAAI), nearly 10 million people choose to live with pets even though they're allergic to them. "Most people who are real cat lovers elect to suffer some, or take medicines, rather than give up their pet," said Dr. Robert Wood, division chief of pediatric allergy and immunology at Johns Hopkins Children's Center in Baltimore. 🔑

For people with mild to moderate allergies, 🔑 controlling flare-ups involves managing their home environment, taking medication, and having their pets groomed regularly. Cat-induced allergies affect about 20 percent of the U.S. population, according to studies, and is caused by a protein found in the animals' saliva and dander (dead skin cells). Because felines lick their fur to keep clean, the troublesome protein, called "fel d 1," is also deposited on their coats. What's more, the super-lightweight allergen floats through the air, sticking to walls, rugs, clothing, and other surfaces.

"Most people who are real cat-allergic know pretty quickly after they've walked into a house whether there's a cat there or not — they'll sense the beginning of a reaction, 🔑 happening just from what's in the air," Wood said. Reactions include allergy symptoms such as a stuffy nose and red, itchy eyes. Asthmatics are at risk for experiencing more severe reactions, including difficulty breathing.

5. What percentage of people with cat allergies choose to live with their cat?

- (A) 10%
- (B) 20%
- (C) 75%
- (D) Not enough information given 🔑

6. What can people with mild pet allergies do to live with their pet?

- (A) Groom pet regularly.
- (B) Suffer a little.
- (C) Take medication.
- (D) All of the above 🔑

7. What is the best title for this passage? 🔑

- (A) Cat-induced Allergies Explained 🔑
- (B) Dangers of Cat-induced Allergies
- (C) Preparing for Cat Ownership
- (D) Rewards of Cat Ownership

