

I am a person that suffers from severe pet allergies and flying can be a problem now that pets are allowed on planes. The fur and dander stays on planes for years, no matter how well cleaned. It is in the air vents, crevices etc.

I flew once and didn't know pets were allowed on planes and arrived at my destination ready to go the hospital from an asthma attack. I can't use an epipen, don't take allergy medications as I avoid allergy triggers.

Now when I fly, I take allergy medications, have my ventolin at hand (along with the allergy medications) and tell airlines that I have a severe allergy to animals. I phone in multiple times to verify they have the information and dogs or pets are still booked around me. One time I had to move or take a later flight, impossible as I was going home for a chemo treatment. This last time I was told if I react I would cost the airline thousands of dollars and I may need medical clearance to fly. Unacceptable. My ticket is booked 8 to 9 months in advance. I should not have to play second fiddle to a dog that does not pay.

Even with the precautions I take, by the end of a 4 to 5 hour flight I can feel my chest tightening a bit and breathing a bit more difficult.

I have no issue with service dogs, they are no different than me needing a cane or wheelchair, my objection is to people who elect to take their small pets on the plane. My allergies are for ALL animals, the most severe is for dogs.

Why are pet allergies treated differently than a peanut allergy? An allergy is an allergy.

In addition, both allergies are airborne re-active. The dog may be at the back of the plane, but I can still react. For a peanut allergy planes now don't serve peanuts, so maybe the same should be for pets.

I had no problem when pets were not allowed on the planes, maybe go back to that and change how they are treated in cargo.

I love animals and can understand not wanting to leave a pet a home, but is it necessary to bring them?

I guess my point is that both peanut and pet allergies can be triggered by airborne contaminants, why are they treated differently.

Thanks,

B King