



Parasitic disease protection.

How to protect both your
pet and your family.

IDEXX

What are parasites and why do they matter?

- + Parasites are organisms that survive by feeding on animals and sometimes people.
- + Parasites can live in a dog's or cat's blood, gut, or on their skin.
- + They can also spread diseases that can threaten the health of your pet and family.
- + Intestinal parasites can easily be contracted through contaminated dirt or sometimes through other parasites like fleas.
- + Parasite treatments are effective, but not all products are effective against all parasites. If treatment is late or missed, or the pet is exposed again, infection can occur.
- + It's important to have your pet tested regularly as recommended by your veterinarian.

Parasite screening is an important part of your pet's regular wellness diagnostics.
By identifying issues early, we can help your pet live a longer, happier life.



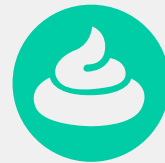
Helpful tips to help protect your pet and family.

- + Use parasite medications as directed by your veterinarian.
- + To ensure the efficacy of the treatments used, test at least every 12 months or more in endemic regions.
- + Pick up and dispose of your pet's faeces regularly.
- + Wash your hands after exposure to your pet's urine, faeces, soil (gardening), and sand pits.
- + Cover sand pits and play areas to prevent wildlife and other animals from contaminating these areas.
- + Remind children not to put dirt or dirty hands in their mouths.





Ask your veterinarian about:



Faecal testing.

Routine testing detects internal parasite infections that medications may not cover.





Effective treatments.

Your veterinarian will recommend the best approach for your dog or cat.

Your guide to understanding parasitic diseases.



Causes of infection	Infectious diseases	Most common signs of infection	Disease progression if not treated	Diagnostics	Treatment	Protection
	<p>Worms can cause infection when dogs are exposed to contaminated soil or faeces that contains eggs or worm larvae. Infection may also spread from mother to puppies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hookworm • Roundworm • Whipworm • Tapeworm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diarrhoea • Diarrhoea or blood in faeces • Pale gums • Poor hair quality • Poor health • Pot-bellied appearance • Vomiting • Or may not show any signs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure to grow/thrive • Severe anaemia • Weight loss • Death 	<p>Stool sample and tests, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faecal antigen testing • Faecal flotation 	<p>Deworming medication and monthly preventives</p> <p>Monthly parasite control products (available from your veterinarian)</p> <p>Also remember to pick up your dog's faeces regularly</p>
	<p>Infected mosquitoes spread worm larvae from infected dogs to your dog.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heartworm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mild cough • Reduced appetite • Reluctance to move or exercise • Weight loss 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heart failure • Lung disease • Death 	<p>Blood tests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heartworm test • Chemistry profile • Complete blood count <p>A urine test</p> <p>Other (depending on initial findings and clinical signs)</p>	<p>Your veterinarian will advise the best treatment</p> <p>Oral, topical and injectable heartworm preventives</p>

Talk with your veterinarian about including
comprehensive parasite testing during your
pet's next wellness visit.

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