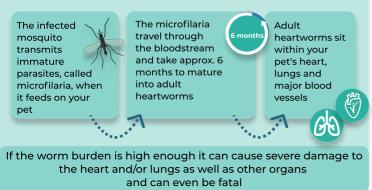


Heartworm (Dirofilaria immitis)

What is Heartworm?

Heartworm is a parasite that is spread by mosquitoes



Signs of heartworm include:

- Weight loss
- Decreased appetite
- · Lethargy and fatigue
- · Coughing
- Panting

the organs • Exercise intolerance 🕅 Caval syndrome: End stage heartworm disease causing difficulty breathing, pale gums, dark coloured urine, carries a

Usually noted as a swollen belly

due to fluid accumulation around

💮 Congestive heart failure:

poor prognosis

Diagnosis:

• Microfilaria Test: a small drop of blood is examined under the microscope to detect immature heartworms (microfilaria)



produced by an adult female heartworm and is usually done within the clinic A blood sample may also be sent to the laboratory for confirmation

· SNAP Test: this test detects a protein (antigen)



Prevention of Heartworm:

Options Available

Oral

- Usually taken as a chewable tablet that can be given as a treat
- Given on a monthly basis

Example: Nexgard Spectra®, Heartgard®, TriHeart®

Topical

- This is usually applied to the skin (not fur) between the shoulder blades
- Given on a monthly basis

Example: REVOLUTION®, Advantage Multi®, Broadline™ (cats), BRAVECTO® PLUS for cats (given every 2 months)

Injectable

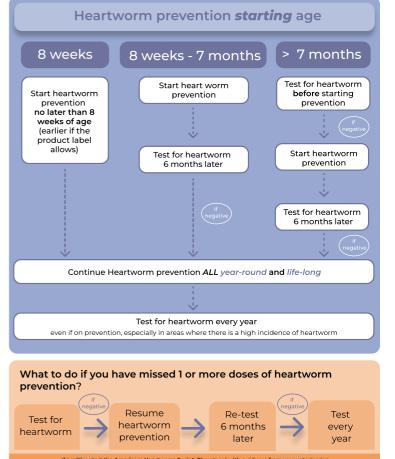
- · A slow-release formulation injected under the skin offering 6 or 12 months protection depending on which product is used
- This offers great convenience for owners and ensures compliance
- Given to fully grown dogs every 6 12 months

Example: Proheart® 6, Proheart® 12

Remember to ask your

veterinarian about which product is most suitable for . your pet's age, weight, location and lifestyle needs

Infected mosquitoes can come into the home so both outdoor and indoor pets (including cats) can be affected



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