# **Parasite Control**

Risk Factors and Considerations:

- Are there young children in the house?
- o Are there individuals with compromised immune systems?
- Are there any pregnant women, or women who could become pregnant?
- Is the pet a service animal?
- Do pets frequently come in contact with highly contaminated environments (dog parks, kennels, etc)?
- o Do pets have access to wildlife such as rodents, rabbits, birds, carcasses, fecal matter?
- Do pets ever roam freely?
- Are pets fed raw meat or organs?
- Any travel to or from southern USA or other travel?
- Any other pets in the household with increased risk?
- Does your pet have any history of seizures?
- Is your pet easy to give oral medications to?
- Does your pet swim frequently?

Answers to these questions will help guide which product is most recommended for your pet

## **Gastrointestinal Parasites**

- Pets are typically infected with these types of parasites by ingesting parasite eggs
  - o Ingesting/licking soil and/or fecal matter
  - o Tapeworm can be transmitted through ingestion of fleas, rodents, coyote/fox feces
- Fecal testing for gastrointestinal parasites is recommended at least annually and more frequently for higher risk pets
  - Fecal testing can help guide treatment recommendations and identify parasites that are not covered by typical intestinal parasite treatments

## Heartworm

- Pets become infected when bitten by a mosquito carrying heartworm larvae
- 80% of all Ontario cases are located south of 403/402/401
- Prevention should be administered monthly from at least June 1<sup>st</sup> up to and including November (longer or continuous if there is travel to southern destinations)
- Preventative treatment is much simpler (and less expensive) than adult heartworm treatment
- Testing for adult heartworm can be done through a simple blood test and is recommended annually
- Routine testing for adult heartworm is necessary prior to going on prevention
- Heartworm in cats is not currently a medical concern in Canada

## Fleas

- Typically, are seen during the warmer months from spring to autumn
- Each flea can lay up to 50 eggs per day; infestations can happen very quickly

## Ticks

- Typically higher risk period is from March to November but can seek hosts any single day that it is above 0°C
- Our 4Dx test is a simple blood test which can detect Lyme disease
- Testing is not required in order to be on tick medication

# Parasite Products Canine (Dog)

Product	Heartworm	Intestinal Parasites	Tapeworm	Fleas	Ticks	Frequency	Delivery Method
Nexgard	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	Monthly	Chewable tablet
Credelio	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	Monthly	Chewable tablet
Bravecto (oral)	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	Every 3 months	Chewable tablet
Bravecto (topical)	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	Every 3 months	Topical
Advantix	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	Monthly	Topical
Nexgard Spectra	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	Monthly	Chewable tablet
Credelio Plus	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	Monthly	Chewable tablet
Advantage Multi	YES	YES	NO	YES	NO	Monthly	Topical
Interceptor Plus	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	Monthly	Chewable tablet

Blood work options (prices include tax): other options available. These are popular, seasonal blood work specials

\$67.16

- **4Dx** (tests for adult heartworm, Lyme, Anaplasmosis and Ehrlichia)
  - Necessary prior to starting on heartworm prevention; recommended annually

### \$281.37 **4Dx and Geriatric wellness profile**

- Recommended for pets in the older age category (dogs >6-8 yrs old, depending on breed; cats >9 yrs)
- Great for patients on long term medications
- Helpful for detecting early signs of health concerns
- Tests red & white blood cells, liver, kidneys, electrolytes, thyroid
- includes the 4Dx test for heartworm

### \$162.61 4Dx and Mini Wellness

- Great for younger patients to get a baseline of normal
- Can be used for some patients on long term medications
- Helpful for detecting early signs of health concerns
- Tests red & white blood cells, liver and kidneys
- includes the 4Dx test for heartworm

# **Parasite Products Feline (Cat)**

Product	Intestinal Parasites	Tapeworm	Fleas	Ticks	Frequency	Delivery Method
Nexgard Combo	YES	YES	YES	YES	Monthly	Topical
Credelio	NO	NO	YES	YES	Monthly	Chewable tablet
Revolution Plus	YES	NO	YES	YES	Monthly	Topical
Advantage Multi	YES	NO	YES	NO	Monthly	Topical
Vitrecto	YES	NO	YES	YES	Every 2 mth for ticks, every 3 mths for fleas	Topical
Bravecto	NO	NO	YES	YES	Every 2 mth for ticks, every 3 mths for fleas	Topical
Profender	YES	YES	NO	NO	Generally every 3 months	Topical
Milbemax	YES	YES	NO	NO	Generally every 3 months	Tablet

Blood work options (prices listed include tax). Other options also available. These are common, popular profiles

#### \$204 Total Health Profile

- great all-around profile for general health assessment
- tests red & white blood cells, liver, kidneys, electrolytes, cholesterol, triglycerides

### \$234.66 **Total Health Profile with Thyroid**

- great all-around profile for general health assessment for older aged cats (>9 yrs)
- tests red & white blood cells, liver, kidneys, electrolytes, cholesterol, triglycerides
- tests thyroid

### \$266.33 **Total Health Profile with Thyroid and Urinalysis**

- great all-around profile for general health assessment for older aged cats (>9 yrs)
- tests red & white blood cells, liver, kidneys, electrolytes, cholesterol, triglycerides
- tests thyroid
- tests urine for signs of diabetes, infection, crystals, blood