

Damory Veterinary
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Damory Veterinary Clinic

Small Animal Department



WORMING

KITTENS/PUPPIES

All puppies and kittens are likely to be born with roundworms, having become infected in their mother's womb or after birth in their mother's milk. The life cycle involves a juvenile stage within the muscle of the animal, whilst the adults live in the gut. Eggs are present in the faeces and will live in the soil to infect other dogs, cats *and humans*. Regular worming will reduce the risk of infection to all parties. We recommend that puppies and kittens are wormed at 2, 5, 8 and 12 weeks of age and then monthly until they are 6 months old. The following products can be used:

- **PRESCRIPTION SPOT-ON WORMER**

We have spot on treatments available that treat for roundworms, tapeworms and lungworms and can be used monthly to worm your pet. Please speak to your vet regarding the best spot on for your pet.

- **PANACUR GRANULES/PASTE/LIQUID**

Administered daily for 3 consecutive days. Can be used from 2 weeks of age.

- **DRONTAL CAT**

This is a broad spectrum wormer and can be used when the kittens are > 6 weeks old.

- **DRONTAL PLUS DOG**

This is the equivalent for dogs and puppies can be used in puppies > 2 weeks old.

- **PRESCRIPTION ORAL WORMER FOR KITTENS AND PUPPIES**

These are very similar to Drontal in terms of efficacy, with the addition of being effective against lungworm prevention in dogs if taken monthly. The kitten tablets can be used in cats > 6 weeks old and that are > 0.5kg in bodyweight. The puppy tablets can be used in puppies from 2 weeks of age, if they are greater than 0.5kg in weight. These tablets contains the same active ingredient used in some prescription spot on wormers, so as a precaution against overdose, we recommend that they are not used together so check with your vet first.

- **DRONCIT**

This is a worming tablet for tapeworm only, for use in puppies over 2.5kg. This is ideal for puppies who are treated monthly with a spot on wormer which only has effect against roundworm.

ADULT DOGS / CATS

Adult dogs and cats commonly harbour roundworms and tapeworm. Whereas roundworm may be passed from dog/cat to dog/cat via faeces, tapeworm can only be passed via other intermediate hosts.

Two types of tapeworm occur:

- **the most common type transmitted by the flea**
- the other is transmitted via raw meat, rabbits, rodents or fallen carcasses

We recommend that adult cats and dogs that go outside should be wormed every 3 months, as we live in a rural environment, although the frequency is determined by the likelihood of infestation.

LUNGWORM

We are increasingly becoming aware of the problems that lungworm can cause in dogs. Dogs become infected by eating larvae found in snails, slugs or even the slime that they leave behind. Lungworm infection can cause a range of clinical signs, but dogs most commonly present with a cough or an unexplained bleeding disorder. Data shows that it appears to be mostly dogs less than 2 years old that are being diagnosed with lungworm, probably because of their inquisitive nature. For this reason we are recommending using a preventative treatment in dogs up to this age. Over this age the risk of infection is still there but appears less likely, so you should weigh up whether you would still like to cover for lungworm infection. Please speak to your vet regarding a suitable product to protect your dog from lungworm.

PLEASE NOTE

No wormer is 100% effective- prompt removal and disposal of animal faeces is an essential measure to protect you, your family and your pets.