

Treating Feline Parasites

Parasites can cause your kitty a great deal of distress, and even be downright painful. While not usually fatal, untreated parasites can cause serious illness and can also be responsible for the spread of disease.

Feline parasites are divided into two categories: those that live outside the body (such as fleas, mites, ticks, and lice) and those that live inside the body (including tapeworms, heartworms, and ringworms).

Indoor and outdoor cats are both at risk for most parasites; just because your kitty lives indoors does not mean she's immune.

Fortunately, there are several great medications available to help control feline parasites.

Profender

Profender, a new parasite medication, is used for treatment and control of hookworms, roundworms, and tapeworms. This product, when used appropriately and safely, is an effective and easy treatment option. It is applied topically (on the skin). So no need to try and pill your cat -- just use the applicator to apply Profender directly to the skin at the base of your kitty's neck, as directed. It is recommended that you allow Profender to dry, and be fully absorbed by your kitty's skin, for 24 hours before the kitty has contact with other pets and human family members.

Advantage

Advantage, also a topical medication, has been around for a long time; it has been one of the best products at controlling flea infestation in our felines. Advantage helps prevent flea allergy dermatitis for allergic kitties. It has also saved the lives of many of our kittens suffering from flea anemia, and its margin of safety has been very good. Once Advantage has been applied to your kitty's skin, it's recommended that you allow at least 30 minutes before the kitty interacts with other pets and human family members.

Advantage Multi

Advantage Multi is a relatively new product that has been a great addition to our parasite treatment options. Just like regular Advantage, it is a topical medication. In addition to fleas, it aids in the control of ear mites, hookworms, roundworms, and heartworms.

Frontline Plus for Cats

Frontline Plus is a topical preventive; it controls brown ticks, American dog ticks, lone star ticks, deer ticks, and chewing lice. It also protects against fleas, flea eggs, and flea larvae. This is a great product for outdoor kitties.

Bartonella ("Cat Scratch Disease")

While we're discussing parasite control, it's important to mention Bartonella, also known as the "Cat Scratch Disease" bacteria. While Bartonella is not a parasite, it's transmitted primarily through flea bites, and may also be transmitted by ticks. It's a zoonotic disease, meaning it can be transmitted to you from your cat, via scratches, bites, and contact with fur. A blood test, called the FeBart, was developed by the National Veterinary Laboratory to detect Bartonella in cats. If your kitty is diagnosed with Bartonella, the treatment is a course of an appropriate antibiotic. Usually, a follow-up titration test is given 6 months after successful treatment and resolution of symptoms. Cats may present with many clinical signs, or none at all. Symptoms include gingivitis, oral lesions, upper respiratory issues, eye diseases, intestinal diseases, [lymphadenopathy](#), fever, skin diseases, and heart diseases. Humans are also susceptible to Bartonella symptoms; consult with your physician to obtain more information about Cat Scratch Disease.

Other Zoonotic Diseases

Did you know that intestinal parasites can be transmitted to humans -- especially children? These parasites spread through your skin and eyes via direct contact with the worms. The parasites can cause skin lesions, infections, and even permanent eye damage based on their migration pattern through your body.

Prevention is the Best Medicine

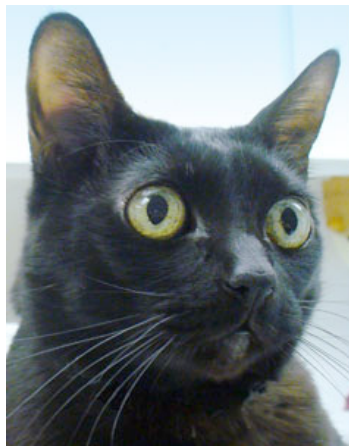
The best way to prevent the spread of disease, and to keep you and your kitty happy, comfortable, and parasite-free, is to make sure your kitty maintains a regular schedule of deworming and parasite preventive treatments.

Please talk with the doctors at the Sacramento Cat Hospital to learn about the best ongoing parasite prevention plan for your feline family member.

When you purchase a 6-pack of Advantage or Advantage Multi from the Sacramento Cat Hospital, receive one free dose. Please ask a staff member for more details.



Come Meet Lovely Laney



Hi! My name's Laney and I'm looking for a loving home to call my own.

I'm about 5 years old and I love to cuddle up in a person's lap or curl up in a box. I've been at the Sacramento Cat Hospital for a few months now, and everyone's been great, but I'd really rather be with a nice family all my own.

I'm declawed in the front, but I like to pretend I'm scratching boxes. I can't do any damage, but it's fun to imagine that I'm tearing up the cardboard. I also like watching TV once in a while. One of the hospital technicians brought her laptop to work one day, and I watched part of "Coraline" with her. The black cat in the movie is pretty cool (though I may be biased).

If you think I might be a good fit for your home, please come by the hospital to meet me, or call and ask a staff member for more information about me.



Thank you for your support!

The Doctors and Staff of the Sacramento Cat Hospital

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Sacramento Cat Hospital

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Business Hours:

Monday to Friday: 7:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. • Saturday: 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. • Sunday: Closed