



Keeping your dogs, cats, kittens and puppies free from parasites!

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The DUNG thing!



The dangers of Spirocerca Lupi and how to protect your dog

The dung beetle is the intermediate host of a killer worm called *Spirocerca Lupi*. It used to be fairly rare but is becoming more common causing severe illness in dogs.

The lifecycle of this worm requires both a final host which is the dog and an intermediate host which is the dung beetle. Paratenic hosts can also be involved. These are other mammals (rats and mice) or birds (chickens) that have eaten the beetle and are then themselves eaten by the dog. Many believe that Hadedra poop can transmit the worm to dogs, but this is not true.

When the dung beetle or paratenic host are eaten by the dog, the worm larvae are released into the dog's stomach. The larvae burrow through the stomach wall into the blood vessels which transport them to the aorta. They now burrow into the wall of the aorta, weakening the walls and causing aneurysms. These aneurysms can rupture resulting in huge blood loss and sudden death. The larvae stay in the aorta wall to mature and then move on to lodge in the wall of the oesophagus where they live, mate and lay eggs. The eggs are then passed out in the faeces and are ingested by the dung beetle. The worm's presence in the oesophageal wall results in nodules forming which grow bigger over time. As they grow, they cause the dog to vomit or regurgitate, the dog may even find swallowing difficult, have a poor appetite, lose

weight and be lethargic. If left untreated, these nodules can also become cancerous and the cancer can spread, particularly to the lungs.

Diagnosis is made using one or more of the following: x-ray, ultrasound scan or endoscopy.

Treatment will be decided by your vet and is a very lengthy process which may even require surgery. The earlier treatment is started the more successful it will be.

Once again prevention is better than cure and this is achieved through monthly treatments with the spot-on ADVOCATE or the tablet MILBEMAX.

Thankfully *Spirocerca Lupi* infections in cats have been rare to non-existent.



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Other worms that can be detrimental to your dog and cat's health are roundworms, whipworms, hookworms and tapeworms. These can be treated with a number of products, usually in tablet form, and given every 3 months.

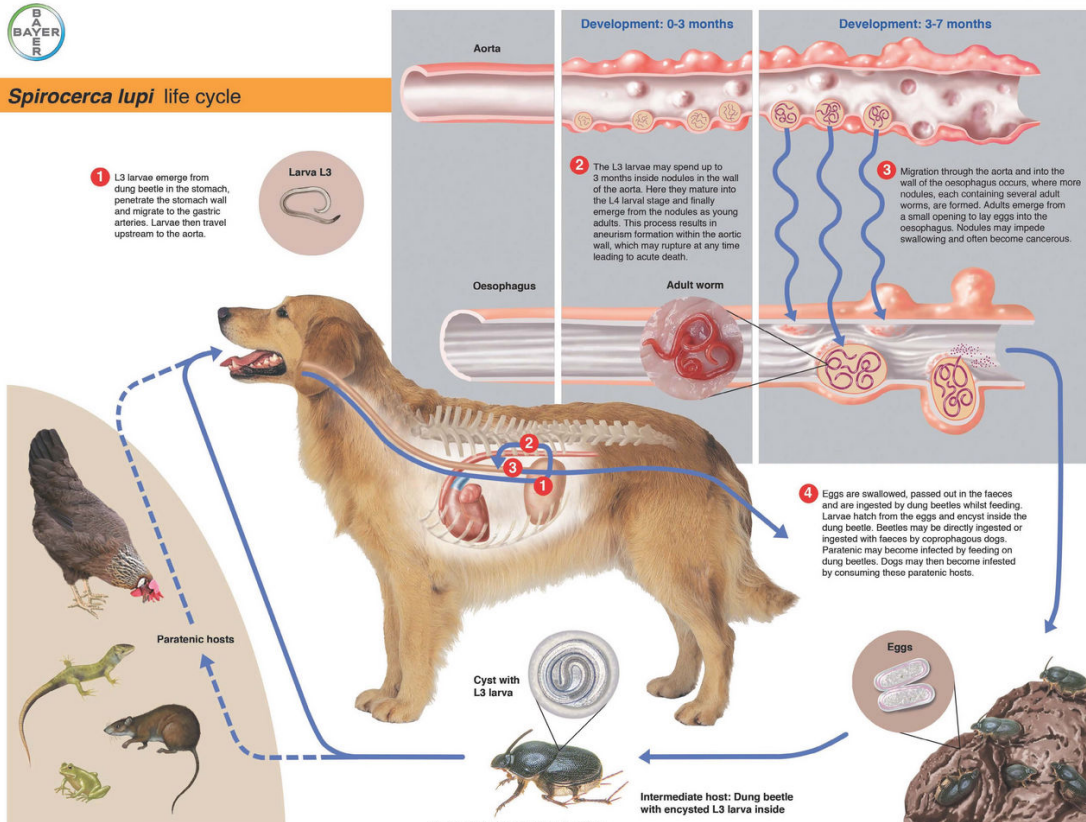
Some products available are TRIWORM C; TRIWORM D; DICESTAL; PANACUR; MEDIWORM; REVOLUTION; MILPRO.

There are also spot on treatments available, especially for cats.

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Spirocerca lupi life cycle



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Product options for DOGS



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	Roundworm	Whipworm	Hookworm	Tapeworm	Spirocerca Lupi	Mange mite	Ear mite	Other	Pregnant/lactating	Puppies	Dosing interval
Advocate spot on	X	X	X		X	X	X	Fleas, Louse		X	4 Weeks
Antezole tablet, liquid, paste	X	X	X	X					X	X	3 Months
Dicestal tablet				X							3 Months
Drontal tablet	X	X	X	X				Giardia	X	X	3 Months
Exitel Plus	X	X	X	X					X	X	3 Months
Mediworm Plus tablet	X	X	X	X					X	X	3 Months
Mediworm tablet	X		X	X					X	X	3 Months
Milbemax tablet	X	X	X	X	X						3 Months, 1 month for Spirocerca Lupi
Milpro tablet	X	X	X	X	X						3 months, 1 month for Spirocerca Lupi
Nexgard Spectra	X	X	X		X	X		Ticks/ Fleas			1 Month
Panacur paste	X		X					Giardia	X	X	3 Months
Prazifen tablet	X		X	X							3 Months
Quantel tablet	X	X	X	X							3 Months
Revolution spot on	X					X	X	Ticks/Fleas/Lice			4 Weeks
Triworm D tablet	X	X	X	X					X	X	3 Months

* Pregnant bitches should be dewormed with one of these products 10 days before whelping. Puppies should be dewormed every 2 weeks from 2 weeks of age until they are 12 weeks of age and thereafter every 3 months. **Giardia can be treated with these products. They must be given at the recommended dose for 5 consecutive days.

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Product options for CATS



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	Roundworm	Whipworm	Hookworm	Tapeworm	Ear Mites	Other	Nursing Queen	Kittens	Dosing interval
Advocate spot on	X		X		X	Fleas			1 Month
Antezole tablet, liquid, paste	X		X	X				X	3 months
Bravecto Plus spot on	X		X		X	Ticks/Fleas			3 months
Broadline spot on	X		X	X		Ticks/Fleas			1 Month
Dicestyl tablet				X					3 Months
Drontal tablet	X		X	X			X		3 Months
Mediworm tablet	X		X	X					3 Months
Milbemax tablet	X	X	X	X			X	X	3 Months
Milpro tablet	X	X	X	X					3 months
Panacur paste	X		X			Giardia		X	3 Months
Prazifen tablet	X	X	X	X					3 Months
Profender Spot on	X		X	X					3 Months
Quantel tablet	X	X	X	X					3 Months
Revolution spot on	X		X		X	Ticks/Fleas		X	1 Month
Triworm C tablet	X		X	X					3 Months

* Kittens should be dewormed from 2 weeks of age every 2 weeks until they are 12 weeks of age.** Broadline should be used monthly in kittens, in cats in catteries or welfare shelters. Monthly during tick and flea season and if there is a risk of worms. Apply every 3 months for indoor/outdoor cats. Apply twice a year for indoor cats



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Say NO to Ticks!

Identifying ticks
and how to keep
your pet safe

Pet owners know their fur babies and can immediately tell when something is off about them. However, figuring out what exactly is sucking the joy out of your dog isn't as obvious, especially when it's latched onto their skin underneath all that glorious hair! We're talking about ticks and how to keep your pet safe from them. Although ticks are small and irritating, they can cause a myriad of diseases in your pet, some of which can be fatal.

MEET THE TICK

There are approximately 899 different species of ticks in the world. They're divided into two groups - hard ticks and soft ticks. Hard ticks are identified by the hard shield behind the mouthparts and are shaped like an apple seed (when they aren't fed). Soft ticks don't have the hard shell and resemble a raisin. Although all ticks are problematic for your pet, the most common ones you'll find are hard ticks, more specifically the brown dog tick and the yellow dog tick.

Ticks cling to long grass and shrubbery, with their front legs stretched out waiting to grab onto your unsuspecting pet as they pass by. This is called questing. Ticks are a problem year-round, but more so in spring and summer as the high temperatures and moist environments create the ideal climate for them to thrive.

DANGERS TO DOGS

Tick bite fever is a disease known by many pawrents, and this can occur when a tick carrying the Babesia parasite bites your pet. The parasite is transmitted to your pet through the tick's saliva, causing the red blood cells to burst, which drastically drops your pet's red blood cell count, and an urgent blood transfusion may be required. Some ticks can cause deadly tick paralysis or transmit other harmful and potentially fatal diseases to dogs. The mildest consequence of a tick bite is the affected area becoming infected and painful.

Not all ticks carry the tick bite fever parasite, but there are many that do. The incubation period for tick bite fever is 14 days, so if you've removed a tick from your pet, keep an eye out for any symptoms over the next two weeks. Tick bite fever symptoms are non-specific, but look out for general unwellness in your pet such as reduced or lack of appetite, lethargy and weakness, nausea, diarrhoea and pale gums (although some dogs have dark gums).

Ticks will hop onto your pet whether you like it or not. However, you can prevent them from causing any harm to your fur baby with a simple monthly treatment

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People Foods to Avoid Feeding Your Pets



Did you know that sharing some of your favourite foods could cause harm to your dog or cat?

Many pet parents like to give their dogs human treats but did you know that this could be very dangerous? Here's a list of foods that could land your dog or cat at the vet:

CHOCOLATE

Humans and dogs love chocolate. Unfortunately, it contains theobromine and caffeine; two very toxic substances for dogs and cats. As little as 60g of milk chocolate per kg body weight can be lethal to dogs.

GRAPES AND RAISINS

Although dogs are usually affected, grape toxicosis is prevalent in cats. The exact toxic substance is still unknown, but it causes kidney failure. Ingesting as little as 30g grapes or 10g raisins per kg body weight can cause symptoms and death in dogs.

AVOCADO

Avocado tree leaves are the most poisonous, but the stems, fruit, and seeds can cause toxicity in susceptible animals. It's especially dangerous for exotic pets such as rabbits, guinea pigs, birds, and fish.

ALCOHOL

Alcoholic beverages and food products containing alcohol can cause vomiting, diarrhea, decreased coordination, central nervous system depression, difficulty breathing, tremors, abnormal blood acidity, coma and even death.

ONIONS, GARLIC, CHIVES

These vegetables and herbs can cause gastrointestinal irritation and could lead to red blood cell damage and anemia. Although cats are more susceptible, dogs are also at risk if a large enough amount is consumed.

XYLITOL

Xylitol is used as a sweetener in many products, including gum, candy, baked goods and toothpaste. It can cause insulin release in most species, which can lead to liver failure.





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