

WESTHOUGHTON surgery 01942 818845
53/55 Chorley Rd., Westhoughton, Bolton BL5 3PD

HORWICH Surgery 01204 694004
158/160 Chorley New Rd., Horwich, Bolton BL6 5QW

Worming your dog or cat

When?

We recommend worming all **adult** dogs and cats every **THREE MONTHS**

Puppies and kittens need more frequent worming, especially against roundworms - a common worming regime is to give Panacur at 2 weeks, 5 weeks, 8 weeks and then 12 weeks of age. Usually the last two coincide with our vaccination program.

Why?

- To prevent and treat round/tapeworm infections in the animal.
- To reduce the environmental contamination of roundworms which are transmissible to humans. Although rare, toxocara worm eggs can be picked up, particularly by children, and cause serious diseases including blindness.

How?

By using **DRONTAL** tablets in dogs (1 per 10kg) every **THREE** months

By using **DRONTAL CAT** tablets in cats (1 per 4kg) every **THREE** months

If you cannot manage to administer tablets there are alternatives:-

- **Stronghold** spot-on will kill **ROUNDWORMS** (as well as fleas/mites)
 - **Panacur** paste or granules will kill **ROUNDWORMS**
 - **Droncit** injection will kill **TAPEWORMS** (administered by vet only)
 - **Droncit** spot-on will kill **TAPEWORMS** (cats only)
 - **Profender** spot-on will kill **TAPEWORMS & ROUNDWORMS** (cats only)
- so even the "difficult" cat can be treated!

But is it necessary?

All puppies and kittens are born with worms transmitted to them whilst they are in the womb. Obviously if the mother has been regularly wormed then the worm level passed on to the youngsters will be lower.

It is not really a question of "has my animal got worms?" - they will **all** come in to contact with worms and become infected **without** you seeing any signs in the early stages, so **prevention** is the key for both animal **and** human health reasons.

In a recent survey it was found that 25% of so called "healthy" dogs carried the sticky toxocara eggs on their coats - a potential source of infection for humans.

Can we help?

To encourage you to worm regularly we are offering a 15% discount on **Drontal** tablets for dogs or cats if you take **four** doses -ie a full years supply. There are some handy stickers on the packets to put on your calendar every 3 months.

What about hookworms and lungworms?

Using the above worming regime will also cover for these less well known worms although occasionally a revised dose needs to be given - the vet will advise if this is necessary. Heartworms are not seen regularly in this country, but can be seen in animals that have been abroad.

And one last thing to note.....

The life cycle of some of the tapeworms goes through the flea - so if you have seen fleas - then your animal may have worms too!and if you have seen tapeworms - then your animal has probably got fleas too!