Guidelines for Controlling Internal & External Parasites

The Companion Animal Parasite Council (CAPC) is an independent council of veterinarians and other health care professionals established to create guidelines for the optimal control of internal and external parasites that threaten the health of pets and people. It brings together broad expertise in parasitology, internal medicine, human health care, public health, preventive medicine, practice and association leadership, and represents the interests of the health of pets and people. It brings together to create guidelines for the optimal control of internal and external parasites that threaten the health of pets and people. It brings together to create guidelines for the optimal control of internal and external parasites that threaten the health of pets and people.

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For more information about how parasites may affect your pet, please visit us at www.capcvet.org.

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Controlling Internal and External Parasites in U.S. Dogs and Cats

General Guidelines

Parasite control should be guided by veterinarians.

- Administer year-round broad-spectrum parasite control with efficacy against heartworm, intestinal parasites with zoonotic potential, fleas, and ticks.
- Administer anthelmintic treatment to puppies and kittens starting at two weeks of age, repeating every two weeks until two months of age, and then monthly until the pet is six months old.
- Deworm puppies and kittens starting at two weeks, repeating every two weeks until two months of age, and then monthly until the pet is six months old.
- Deworming programs and their timing are two weeks for each pair of internal parasites, with a return period of two weeks for tapeworms and two weeks for heartworms.
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If less than optimal control is practiced:

- Deworm puppies and kittens starting at two weeks, repeating every two weeks until two months of age, and then monthly until the pet is six months old.
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Every pet, All year long.

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