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Family Care for Family Pets

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Zoonotic Alert!

Are you providing the safeguards required to protect both you and your pet from internal parasites?

PARASITE PREVENTION SAVINGS OFFER ENCLOSED

ORDER FROM phil winter's marketing communications
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ABQ Vet News

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An ABQ Petcare Publication for Pets and Their People

ABQ Petcare recommends REVOLUTION®

REVOLUTION® is a once a month topical for cats Revolution® is safe for nearly all cats - no matter their stage of life. It can be used on kittens and older than 8 weeks of age and is also safe for breeding animals and pregnant or nursing mothers. This product should NOT be used on sick, debilitated or underweight animals.



Revolution® will kill ADULT FLEAS on your cat as well as prevent flea eggs from hatching during the one-month period after application. Revolution® has been proven to effectively control and prevent infestations of ear mites in dogs and cats. Revolution® will prevent your animal from becoming infected with HEARTWORM DISEASE.

Revolution® provides dogs with additional protection against the American Dog Tick and can be used to treat sarcoptic mange. It effectively treats and controls intestinal HOOKWORM and ROUNDWORM infections in cats.

Due to a significant increase in adverse incidents, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is taking a series of actions to increase the safety of spot-on pesticide products for flea and tick control for cats and dogs. The EPA will review labels to determine which ones need stronger and clearer labeling statements.

We all love our pets and as such want to provide them with quality treatments and medications when needed. There are many EPA-registered pesticide products on the market today to treat your pets for fleas and ticks. EPA is responsible for ensuring that all pesticides sold in the United States do not cause unreasonable risks when they are used according to label directions and

and online they are rarely used by veterinarians because of the safety risk. Beware of Counterfeit Products – Believe it or not, some online products could in fact be counterfeit– companies may attempt to slip you unapproved drugs in EPA approved packaging. Unfortunately, the counterfeit drugs are hard to distinguish from the EPA approved ones, but there are some things you can look for to spot counterfeits. An easy way to check your flea and tick medications would be to look at the applicator. The most obvious sign of a counterfeit product is that the safety warnings and instructions that come with the applicator are not in English. Also, the



EPA Increases Restrictions on Flea and Tick Products Cautions Consumers to Use Products With Extra Care

precautions. Some EPA approved products contain pesticides and chemicals that could be harmful to you or your pet. EPA guidelines ensure that when used or applied properly, these drugs will not adversely affect your family. Lack of appropriate warning labels, safety precautions, or usage information may lead to illness for your pet or the person exposed to the medication. Some foreign made pet medications, which might be purchased online, do not provide these warning labels nor do they adhere to providing information as to the appropriate use of the medications.

Most of the new generation veterinary parasite control products are designed act on nerve cells that only fleas or other arthropods possess. They therefore are very toxic to fleas and very non-toxic to mammals. Most of the cheap over-the-counter and online products contain pyrethrins or pyrethroids. These pesticides are toxic to just about every creature. Fleas and other arthropods are most sensitive. Cats can be very sensitive to this class of chemicals. Although these products are still available at many pet stores

numbers on the applicator package and retail carton should be identical and the applicator should come in child resistant packaging.

The EPA recommends that owners consult with their veterinarian about the best way to protect their pets from fleas and ticks or whether pesticides are needed, especially before using any product on

weak, aged, medicated, sick, pregnant or nursing pets, or on pets that have previously shown signs of sensitivity to pesticide products. In addition, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) also urges pet owners who shop for prescription pet medicines online to make sure they remain aware of exactly what they are buying.

Our pets are like family to us, and we would never do anything to intentionally harm them. But intentional or not, they could be harmed by the medications and treatments we expose them to. When shopping for pet medication, be extremely cautious about where your medications are coming from and whether they are meeting government guidelines and regulations.

\$10 SAVINGS HEARTWORM TEST

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Heartgard® Buy 12 doses get \$12 back!

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Sugarless Gum, A Sweet Treat or Poison for Your Dog?



Sugarless gum often uses a sugar substitute called xylitol, it offers sweetness without calories and can also be found in baked goods and flavored medications. Xylitol also has antibacterial properties in the mouth that help reduce periodontal disease as well as health benefits in other areas of the body. Sounds great if you are a human, but for dogs xylitol is potentially lethal.

When a dog ingests xylitol the pancreas will become confused and release insulin to store the sugar. The problem is that xylitol does not offer the extra calories that sugar provides and the rush of insulin removes the real sugar from the body. The blood sugar levels will plummet and can result in disorientation, seizures and even death. Symptoms will usually appear within 30 minutes of ingestion and can last for 12-24 hours. Xylitol in high doses can also cause liver damage that may not be reversible.

What about cats?
At this time there are no reported xylitol toxicities in cats, but ferrets are affected in the same way as dogs.

A Dog's Dictionary

BATH: A process by which humans use us to drench the floor, walls and themselves. Retaliate by shaking vigorously and frequently.

BICYCLE: Two-wheeled human transport devise useful for dogs to control body fat or reduce boredom. For maximum effect, hide behind a bush and upon approach of such human-operated device, dash out, bark loudly and run alongside for a few yards — the human will swerve and fall, thereupon you proudly, but quickly, prance away.

BUMP - REGULAR: The best way to get human attention while the human is drinking a fresh cup of coffee or tea. To execute, maneuver your snout under the arm holding the liquid beverage. When your snout is properly positioned, with one smooth flowing action, bounce the human's arm upward.



GARBAGE CAN: A container put out once a week to test your overall intelligence, ingenuity and skill. To succeed in this event, stand on your hind legs and carefully and quietly, push the lid off with your nose. With correct execution, you will find valuable treats inside such as Taco Bell wrappers, pizza boxes with moldy crusts and other delicacies. Proper follow-through involves strewing the contents as consistently, within the immediate area, as possible.

SOFAS: A multi-purpose household furnishing that can be used as a dog bed (see above) or alternatively, as what humans refer to as a "napkin". After eating, it is polite to clean up, by running your snout up and down the front of the sofa. This will ensure removal of all food particles from your whiskers.



Zoonotic Alert Important Update

ZOONOSIS refers to a parasite or disease, like rabies, that can be passed from animal to humans. Members of your family can unknowingly pick up zoonotic parasites at the park, on a sidewalk, or even in their own backyard. Since children often play outside, they are the most at risk for disease transmission. In addition, individuals who are pregnant, elderly persons, people receiving chemotherapy or anyone who is immunocompromised, can be at risk.



When They Are This Close –
You Want Them Both Protected!

Zoonotic disease in humans can lead to abdominal pain, skin irritations, neurological problems and vision loss. The most common zoonotic parasites are roundworms and hookworms. A recent Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) bulletin advised that almost **14% of the U.S. Population is infected** with *Toxocara*. The results of this study showed that *Toxocara* infection is more widespread and common than previously understood.

Advanced parasitic control medication for your pet is available. **Because the risk of parasites is often year round, we recommend a monthly parasite prevention program and we follow CDC guidelines and recommend parasite fecal exams every six months for your pet(s).**

Learn more at www.petsandparasites.org.

Start Frontline® Now! They're Back!

Spring Can Bring Unwanted Visitors!

Fleas transmit a number of diseases, including epidemic typhus and bubonic plague, and they are also a carrier for tapeworms. **In addition, flea saliva has been called one of the most irritating substances known to man.** Many dogs and cats are allergic to it, causing a reaction called flea allergy dermatitis, the most common allergic disease among pets.

With the coming of spring, we are once again burdened with the thought of those pesky little fleas. Fortunately there are a few simple solutions to remedy any flea problem. At **ABQ Petcare** we recommend using a once monthly flea preventative to avoid any flea infestations. It keeps you and your pet safe, healthy, and comfortable. However, what if your pet does get fleas? Here are some simple tips on how to eliminate the invasion.

- **Treat all pets in the household**
- **Vacuum places your pet tends to reside**
- **Clean and treat furniture and bedding where your pet sleeps**
- **Clean and treat automobiles and pet carriers**
- **Use hot water and mechanical (washing machines, carpet cleaners, stem vacs) or chemical (approved household sprays) treatments for environmental populations**
- **Consult your veterinarian**

These tidbits will help you learn and understand a flea population, so that you can better control and eradicate flea infestations.

The adult fleas you see make up only 5% of the population. Under ideal conditions, a pair of fleas can produce millions of descendants in one year, and each new generation can grow from egg to adult in only 21 days. If your dog or cat has a flea infestation, it is important to realize that the fleas that you see are only a small portion of the entire flea population. Flea eggs fall off your pets into their environment, including their bed, your bed, floors, furniture, closets, and other

dark corners of your home.

How long will it take to exterminate a flea infestation and what prevention/treatment should I use?

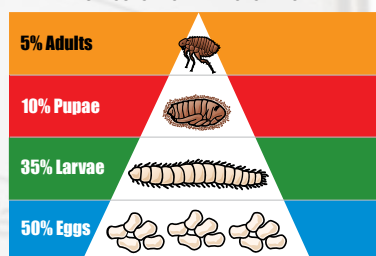
If all of the pets in the household are treated monthly with a veterinarian approved product, and the environment is treated in a correct and timely manner, then the entire flea population should be eliminated in about 3 months. Due to the life cycle of the flea it can take a few months to completely clean the environment.

By using a monthly flea preventive you are protecting your pet against potential health risks, such as Lyme disease, anemia, Flea Allergy Dermatitis (FAD) and tapeworm infestations. You are also making your home safe and comfortable for your family.

FLEA FACTS:

- Fleas can bite up to 400 times a day!
- A female flea consumes 15 times its body weight in blood daily.
- Adult fleas spend most of their lives feasting on your pet.
- Great jumpers – fleas can jump 150 times the length of their bodies, the equivalent to a man jumping 1,000 feet.
- Fleas reproduce rapidly at room temperature, making your home, pet and carpet the perfect year-round breeding environment.

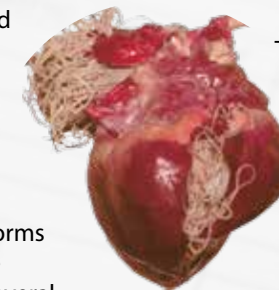
STRUCTURE OF FLEA POPULATION



Heartworm Test Now! One Bite Is All It Takes...

Heartworm infection in animals is a serious health threat that can ultimately result in heart failure and death. One bite from a mosquito can transmit heartworms to your pet. Dogs are the most common victims, but cats, ferrets and other animals are susceptible. Treatment is available for dogs, although it is expensive and may cause complications. Currently, there is no effective Heartworm Disease treatment for cats. But affliction can be prevented.

Heartworms are slender white worms that can grow to as much as 14 inches in length. They obstruct blood vessels, restrict heart valve function and can also cause extensive damage to the lungs, liver and kidneys.



Mosquitoes transmit microscopic larvae of heartworms between animals through the exchange of blood. It takes several months for the larvae to mature and move into the heart and other organs.

What are the symptoms of heartworm infection? Unfortunately, symptoms are not seen during the early stages of the disease and it can take up to a year for any signs of infection. Once the disease is advanced, the pet displays chronic coughing, weight loss and decreased appetite. Pets will lack energy, tire easily and may collapse from heart

failure after playing or exercising. A blood test is available to determine if you pet is infected.

Preventive treatment for heartworm disease, before it advances to the point of seriously jeopardizing your pet's health, is simple and usually 100% effective. Following a blood test to determine if your pet is infected, a once-a-month medication may be administered that destroys any immature heartworms that exist in your pet's bloodstream.

The environment you live in and the existence of mosquitoes can be a critical factor in your pet's exposure to heartworm disease. That's why it's important to consult with your veterinarian about your pet's susceptibility to this potentially fatal disease.

Prevention is the key to your pet's protection against a heartworm infection. Once a month prescription medication is required to protect your pet throughout the year. This medication destroys any immature heartworms that exist in your pet's bloodstream. We combine a wellness blood profile with your heartworm test to ensure your pet is in optimal health.



Trouble Giving Pills?



ProHeart 6 provides a unique option for heartworm prevention. It is a sustained release product and provides 6 months of heartworm protection in a single injection. It also treats hookworm infection.

We also have the injectable antibiotic CONVENIA for dogs and cats that can last up to 14 days.

Medical Alert:

Heat Stroke

Heat stroke is a term commonly used for hyperthermia or elevated body temperature. If a pet's body temperature exceeds 103°F, it is considered abnormal or hyperthermic.

Above 105°F it is a pet medical emergency. The critical temperature, where multiple organ failure and impending death occurs, is 109°F.



Dangers of Over-the-Counter Products



Over-the-counter flea products containing pyrethrins or permethrin can be very dangerous and even fatal to your pet. Emergency Clinics often see animals, especially cats, showing adverse signs to flea products containing pyrethrins or permethrin. Symptoms vary, and may include local sensitivity, depression, hypersalivation, muscle tremors, seizures and death. These products are less expensive, but a visit to the emergency room and treatment for your pet is even more costly. Never apply a product labeled for dogs on a cat, even if you only apply one drop. Do not use a product labeled "for adults only" on pediatric pets. Please consult us if you have any questions about which products are safe for you and your pet.

Did you know that...

97% of online pharmacies violate state and/or federal laws by selling false, expired or contaminated products or products not approved by the FDA? A safe online pharmacy requires a doctor's prescription... provides a physical address and phone number in the United States... has a pharmacist available to answer questions... and is licensed with your state's board of pharmacy. –Study of 10,065 online pharmacies by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy. www.NABP.com