

Puppies and Kittens

What you need to know!

LET'S TALK PREVENTATIVES

TOWNSVILLE VETERINARY
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AND
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TICKS AND FLEAS

Paralysis tick and Brown dog tick are the two main types of ticks that can cause serious harm to your pets. Paralysis tick causes paralysis and death in most cases if left untreated. Brown dog ticks can cause significant blood loss but may also be carrying *Ehrlichia canis* which can also be fatal if left untreated.

Fleas do cause great discomfort and lead to severe self-trauma from scratching. Fleas also carry tapeworm larvae which can be transmitted to your pet when they itch and accidentally ingest fleas.



PREVENTION OF TICKS AND FLEAS

There are many different products that treat ticks and fleas, all with varying methods of administration and dosing regimes. All veterinary products are highly effective at preventing ticks and fleas, it's just a matter of finding the product that suits you! There are far too many to go into specifics now so if you have any questions please make sure to bring them up in your next consult.

HEARTWORM

Heartworm is a parasite transmitted by mosquitoes that once large enough, restricts the efficiency of the heart and eventually leads to heart failure. This is primarily a parasite of dogs however it may infect cats as well. The prevention of heartworm is incredibly important because once a dog is infected it can be up to \$3000 to treat!

PREVENTION OF HEARTWORM

There are two methods of preventing heartworm. The first being monthly chews/tablets. The various chews and tablets available are usually 100% effective at preventing heartworm for exactly one month however, forgetting by even a couple of days can leave your dog susceptible. Once infected, monthly preventatives cannot treat the worms inside the blood stream. For this reason, it is highly recommended to use the second method of prevention - Proheart.

Proheart SR12 protects against heartworm for 12 months. This is easier to remember than monthly treatments. For more information, please call the Townsville Vet Clinic on 4779 0233.

TYPES OF WORMS

Roundworms are male and female and are round in body shape. Food is consumed through the mouth. Tapeworms are hermaphrodites and absorb food through their skin and are flat and tape-like.

CAN THESE WORMS AFFECT PEOPLE?

Yes they can!!! Small children and immunocompromised adults are the most vulnerable. All the worms mentioned are specific to dogs and cats. However, if they enter the body of a human, the worm may behave abnormally and migrate to unusual parts of the body including the eye and spinal cord. We worm our pets regularly to protect our own health as well as theirs.

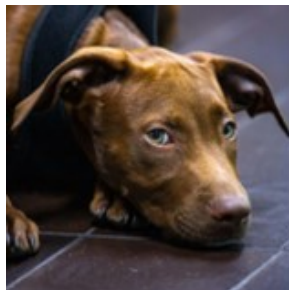
HOW DO I PREVENT GETTING WORMS FROM MY DOG?

- Pick up faeces in the back yard.
- Wash hands after touching a dog and definitely before putting your hands to your mouth or eating.
- Do not go bare foot in back yards or other places where dog or cat faeces may have been. Hook worm is recognised as a significant problem in people in Townsville due to our laid back barefoot culture and our love for our dogs.
- Cover children's sandpits so cats cannot defecate in them.

HOW TO PREVENT PETS FROM GETTING WORMS

Drugs that are used for 'worming' your pets are referred to as anthelmintics. They work by damaging or killing the targeted worm without causing significant damage to the host. There are different products and worming schedules recommended for pets at different stages of their life, the suspect target worm and the environmental conditions.

All of our staff are knowledgeable about the worms that affect your pets and are passionate advocates of preventative animal health and medicine and will be only too happy to help choose the right product for your pet and your situation.



Be sure to visit our website townsvillevetclinic.com.au for more information on caring for your pets, large and small, and the services provided by the Townsville Veterinary Clinic.



WHAT VACCINES WILL YOU NEED

PUPPIES

C3 - Required for all dogs. Prevents against Parvovirus, Distemper Virus and Adenovirus (Hepatitis). These are all potentially fatal diseases that are difficult to treat.

Kennel cough (added to C3 to make up a C5) - Highly recommended for all dogs. Dogs are protected from Parainfluenza and *Bordetella bronchiseptica*, a highly contagious flu-like disease transmitted between dogs.

*Recommended Puppy Vaccination Protocol:

1st Vaccination - C3 at 6-8 weeks old

2nd Vaccination - C5 at 10-12 weeks old

**3rd Vaccination - C3 at 16 weeks old

*Vaccination protocols change depending on the type and brand of vaccines being used.

**The C3 vaccine used at TVC is registered for an early finish and may only require a two vaccine course negating the need for a 3rd vaccination

KITTENS

F3 - Required for all cats. Prevents against Calicivirus, Panleukopenia and Herpes virus (Rhinitis). These are all potentially fatal diseases that are difficult to treat.

FIV - Recommended for at risk cats (discuss with your vet). Protects against Feline Immunodeficiency Virus. Similar to Human AIDS, a progressive disease that weakens the immune system making cats far more susceptible to disease.

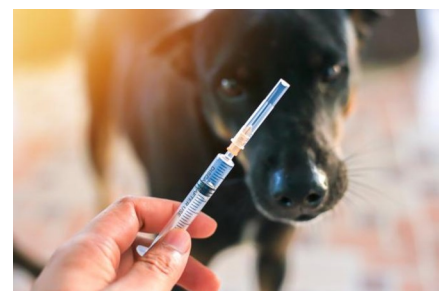
*Recommended Kitten Vaccination Protocol:

1st Vaccination - F3 at 6-8 weeks old

2nd Vaccination - F3 at 10-12 weeks old

3rd Vaccination - F3 at 14-16 weeks old

*Vaccination protocols change depending on the type and brand of vaccines being used.



PUPPY PRE-SCHOOL

Townsville Vet Clinic has regular Puppy Pre-School classes run by qualified nurses. This 3 week short course is a great investment in your puppy's future. Our classes are designed to give your puppy the experience they need to succeed in their life as your trustworthy companion. Our focus is on teaching you and your puppy.

What your puppy learns:

- Important socialisation skills
- Learn simple commands
- Lots of fun and mental stimulation



What you learn about:

- Nutrition
- Dental care
- Vaccinations
- Worming, Fleas and Tick Prevention
- Desexing
- Healthy Desensitisation

Puppies need to be between 8-16 weeks old as at the first week of the course. They must have had at least their first vaccination (and subsequent vaccinations depending on age) and the certificate needs to be supplied.

Our classes are held at our clinic generally starting on the first Tuesday of the month, from 6:30-7:30pm. The cost is \$100 for the 3 week course and prepayment is required to secure your spot. Contact the clinic today on 4779 0233 for any queries or to book your spot in our next class.