

HEARTWORM PREVENTION



The American Heartworm Society recommends year-round administration of medications approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to prevent heartworm infection. Currently available preventives are listed below; as new products become available, updates will be posted at heartwormsociety.org. Please consult the appropriate manufacturer for full label indications and safety information.

Scroll down for feline and ferret preventives.

PREVENTIVES FOR DOGS		<i>Dirofilaria immitis</i>		Other Parasites Treated in Addition to Heartworm								Minimum Age/Weight	Safe to Use During Breeding/Lactation	Food Allergen Considerations	
Drug	Trade Name(s)	Tissue Stages (Larvae)	Circulating Microfilariae	Fleas	Ticks	Hookworms	Roundworms	Whipworms	Tapeworms	Ear Mites	Sarcoptic Mange Mites				
Oral Administration (monthly tablets and chews)															
Ivermectin + pyrantel pamoate	HEARTGARD® Plus (Boehringer Ingelheim)	X				X ^a	X ^b					6 weeks/ no minimum weight	Yes	Beef	
	Tri-Heart® Plus (Merck)														
Ivermectin + pyrantel pamoate + praziquantel	Iverhart Max® (Virbac) IMECTRO® (Ceva)	X				X ^a	X ^b		X ^h			8 weeks/ 6 lbs	Not evaluated	Pork liver Artificial beef	
Milbemycin oxime	Interceptor® (Elanco), MilbeGuard® (Ceva) Milbehart™ (Virbac)	X				X ^c	X ^b	X ^d				4 weeks/ 2 lbs	Yes	Beef	
Milbemycin oxime + praziquantel	Interceptor® Plus (Elanco)	X				X ^c	X ^b	X ^d	X ^f			6 weeks/ 2 lbs	Not evaluated	Chicken	
Milbemycin oxime + lufenuron	Sentinel® Flavor Tabs (Merck)	X			X ^j	X ^c	X ^b	X ^d				6 weeks/ 2 lbs	Yes	Artificial beef Pork/soy	
Milbemycin oxime + lufenuron + praziquantel	Sentinel® Spectrum® (Merck)	X			X ^j	X ^c	X ^b	X ^d	X ^f			6 weeks/ 2 lbs	Not evaluated	Beef	
Milbemycin oxime + spinosad	Trifexis® (Elanco)	X			X ⁿ	X ^c	X ^b	X ^d				8 weeks/ 5 lbs	Use with caution	Artificial beef Pork liver/ hydrolyzed soy	
Moxidectin + afoxolaner + pyrantel	NEXGARD® PLUS (Boehringer Ingelheim)	X			X ⁿ	X ^o	X ^a	X ^b				8 weeks/ 4 lbs	Not evaluated	None	
Moxidectin + sarolaner + pyrantel pamoate	Simparica® Trio (Zoetis)	X			X ^k	X ^l	X ^m	X ^b				8 weeks/ 2.8 lbs	Not evaluated	Pork	
Injectable Administration (every 6 or 12 months)															
Moxidectin	ProHeart® 6 (Zoetis)	X				X ^o						6 months/ 5 lbs	Yes		
	ProHeart® 12 (Zoetis)	X				X ^o						12 months/ 5 lbs	Yes		
Topical Administration (monthly spot-on)															
Moxidectin + imidacloprid	Advantage Multi® (Elanco), IMOXI™ (Vetoquinol USA), Midamox® (Norbrook), PARASEDGE™ Multi (Virbac)	X	X	X ⁿ		X ^p	X ^q	X ^d			X ^r	7 weeks/ 3 lbs	Not evaluated		
Selamectin	Revolution® (Zoetis), Paradyne® (Vethical), Senegy™ (Virbac), Selarid™ (Norbrook), Revolt™ (Aurora)	X			X ^z	X ¹				X ^u	X ^r	6 weeks/ no minimum weight	Yes		

PREVENTIVES FOR CATS		<i>Dirofilaria immitis</i>		Other Parasites Treated in Addition to Heartworm								Minimum Age/Weight	Safe to Use During Breeding/Lactation	Food Allergen Considerations	
Drug	Trade Name(s)	Tissue Stages (Larvae)	Circulating Microfilariae	Fleas	Ticks	Hookworms	Roundworms	Tapeworms	Ear Mites						
Oral Administration (monthly tablets and chews)															
Milbemycin oxime	Interceptor® (Elanco), MilbeGuard® (Ceva) Milbehart™ (Virbac)	X				X ^c	X ^e					6 weeks/ 1.5 lbs	Not evaluated	Beef	
Topical Administration (monthly spot-on; Bravecto PLUS is every 2 months)															
Moxidectin + imidacloprid	Advantage Multi® (Elanco), IMOXI™ (Vetoquinol USA), PARASEDGE™ Multi (Virbac), Midamox™ for Cats (Norbrook)	X			X ⁿ		X ^c	X ⁱ			X ^u	9 weeks/ 1.5 lbs	Not evaluated		
Moxidectin + fluralaner	Bravecto® PLUS (Merck)	X			X ⁿ	X ^v	X ^s	X ⁱ				6 months/ 2.6 lbs	Not evaluated		
Esafoxolaner + eprinomectin + praziquantel	NEXGARD® COMBO (Boehringer Ingelheim)	X			X ⁿ	X ⁴	X ⁹	X ^e	X ⁵			8 weeks/ 1.8 lbs	Not evaluated		
Selamectin	Revolution® (Zoetis), Paradyne® (Vethical), Revolt™ (Aurora), Senegy™ (Virbac), Selarid® (Norbrook)	X			X ^k		X ^m	X ^e			X ^u	8 weeks/ no minimum weight	Yes		
Selamectin + sarolaner	Revolution® PLUS (Zoetis)	X			X ^k	X ²	X ^m	X ^e			X ^u	8 weeks/ 2.8 lbs	Not evaluated		

PREVENTIVES FOR FERRETS		<i>Dirofilaria immitis</i>		Other Parasites Treated in Addition to Heartworm								Minimum Age/Weight	Safe to Use During Breeding/Lactation	
Drug	Trade Name(s)	Tissue Stages (Larvae)	Circulating Microfilariae	Fleas	Ticks	Hookworms	Roundworms	Tapeworms	Ear Mites					
Topical Administration (monthly spot-on)														
Moxidectin + imidacloprid	Advantage Multi® (Elanco) Midamox™ for Cats (Norbrook)	X			X ⁿ							2 lbs	Not evaluated	

a - *Ancylostoma caninum*, *Uncinaria stenocephala*, *A. braziliense*; **b** - Ascarids (*Toxocara canis*, *Toxascaris leonina*); **c** - Adult *Ancylostoma caninum*; **d** - *Trichuris vulpis*; **e** - *Toxocara cati*; **f** - *Taenia pisiformis*, *Echinococcus multilocularis*, *E. granulosus*, *Dipylidium caninum*; **g** - Adult & immature hookworms (*Ancylostoma tubaeforme*, *A. braziliense*); **h** - *D. caninum*, *T. pisiformis*; **i** - Adult *Ancylostoma tubaeforme*; **j** - Prevention and control of flea populations (*Ctenocephalides felis*); **k** - Treatment of flea infestations (*C. felis* and *C. canis*); **l** - Treatment of tick infestations, with immediate & persistent tick killing activity for 5 weeks against *Ixodes hexagonus*, *I. ricinus*, *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* & for 4 weeks against *Dermacentor reticulatus*; **m** - *A. caninum* L4 larvae, immature adults (L5) and adults; *U. stenocephala* adults; **n** - Kills adult fleas; treats flea infestations (*C. felis*); **o** - Larval and adult *A. caninum* & *U. stenocephala*; **p** - Adult, immature adult, & fourth-stage larvae (L4) of *A. caninum* and *U. stenocephala*; **q** - Adult *T. leonina* & adult & L4 of *T. canis*; **r** - *Sarcoptes scabiei* var. *canis*; **s** - Adult, immature adult, & L4 of *A. tubaeforme*; **t** - Adult & L4 of *T. cati*; **u** - *Otodectes cynotis*; **v** - Control of tick infestations due to *I. scapularis*, *D. variabilis*; **w** - Adult and L4 *A. tubaeforme*, adult *A. braziliense*; **x** - Adult and L4 *T. cati*; **y** - Adult *D. caninum*, *E. multilocularis*; **z** - Kills adult fleas & prevents flea eggs from hatching for 1 month; prevention & control of *C. felis* infestation; **1** - Control of tick infestations due to *D. variabilis*; **2** - Control of tick infestations due to *I. scapularis*, *A. maculatum*, *D. variabilis*; **3** - Adult *D. caninum* and *E. multilocularis*; **4** - Treatment and control of *I. scapularis*, *R. sanguineus*, *D. variabilis*, and *A. americanum* infestations for one month in dogs and puppies 8 weeks of age and older, weighing >4 pounds; **5** - *D. caninum*; **6** - Treatment and control of *I. scapularis*, *R. sanguineus*, *D. variabilis*, and *A. americanum* infestations for one month.