

COMMON MISPERCEPTIONS ABOUT HEARTWORM DISEASE

MYTH Treating heartworm disease is just as easy as preventing it.

FACT Treatment for canine heartworm disease is expensive as well as traumatic and risky for the dog. The outcome is unpredictable, and treatment:

- Lasts for 4-6 months.
- Requires multiple injections of an arsenic-based drug.
- Requires that the owner crate and isolate the pet for 6-8 weeks.
- Involves significant cost—up to \$1,000 or more.

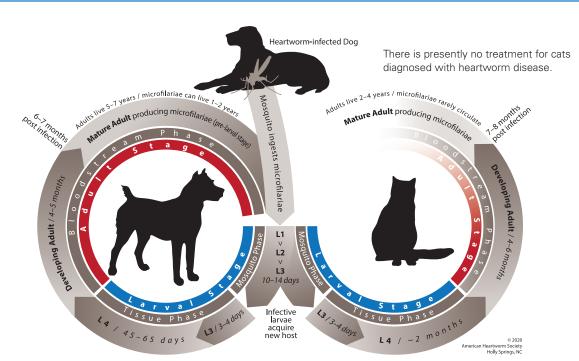
MYTH The owner will notice signs of infection early enough to take action before the disease becomes serious.

FACT In many cases, clinical signs are not noticeable in the early stages of heartworm disease.

MYTH Heartworm infection is spread through contact with infected dogs or their feces.

FACT Heartworm disease is spread only by mosquitoes, and all dogs are at risk.

CANINE AND FELINE HEARTWORM LIFE CYCLES





PREVENTIVE CARE WAIVER

 I understand that my dog/cat is at risk to contract heartworm disease 	•	understand	that my	dog/cat is	at risk to	contract	heartworm	disease
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- I understand that if heartworm disease is contracted it could be fatal.
- I understand that treatment for heartworm disease is not guaranteed and can cost up to \$1,000 or more.

My veterinarian's recommendation is _____

I hereby decline

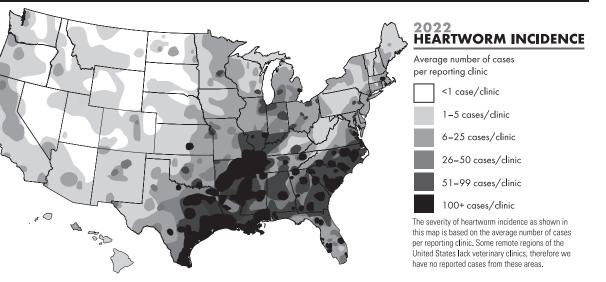
- Heartworm test
- □ Heartworm preventive

I hold both veterinarian and staff harmless should illness, injury, or death result from declining the recommended care.

Pet Name
Veterinarian
Pet Owner's Name
Pet Owner's Signature
Data
Date



US CANINE HEARTWORM PREVALENCE MAP Data on the incidence of feline cases is being studied.



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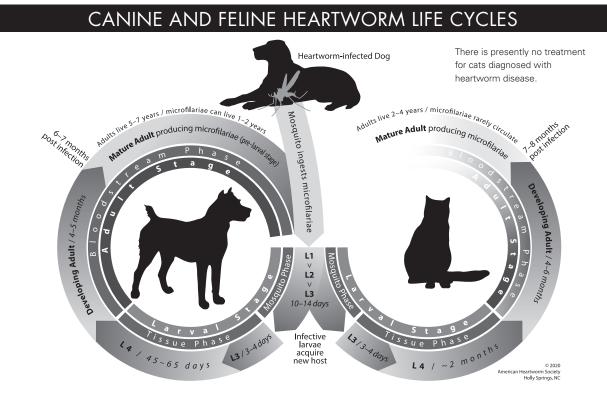
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FILE WITH PATIENT RECORDS

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