

# 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](http://heartwormsociety.org). Please consult the appropriate manufacturer for full label indications and safety information.

Scroll down for feline and ferret preventives.

PREVENTIVES FOR DOGS		Dirofilaria immitis		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	Mange Mites					
<b>Oral Administration (monthly tablets and chews)</b>																
Ivermectin + pyrantel pamoate	<b>HEARTGARD® Plus</b> (Boehringer Ingelheim)	X				X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>b</sup>					6 weeks/ no minimum weight	Yes	Beef		
	<b>Tri-Heart® Plus</b> (Merck)															Pork liver
	<b>Iverhart Plus®</b> (Virbac)	X					X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>b</sup>								
Ivermectin + pyrantel pamoate + praziquantel	<b>Iverhart Max®</b> (Virbac) <b>IMECTRO®</b> (Ceva)	X				X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>b</sup>		X <sup>h</sup>			8 weeks/ 6 lbs	Not evaluated	Pork liver Artificial beef		
Milbemycin oxime	<b>Interceptor®</b> (Elanco), <b>MilbeGuard®</b> (Ceva) <b>Milbehart™</b> (Virbac)	X				X <sup>c</sup>	X <sup>b</sup>	X <sup>d</sup>				4 weeks/ 2 lbs	Yes	Beef		
Milbemycin oxime + praziquantel	<b>Interceptor® Plus</b> (Elanco)	X				X <sup>c</sup>	X <sup>b</sup>	X <sup>d</sup>	X <sup>f</sup>			6 weeks/ 2 lbs	Not evaluated	Chicken		
Milbemycin oxime + lotilaner	<b>Credelio™ Plus</b> (Elanco)	X		X <sup>k</sup>	X <sup>l</sup>	X <sup>c</sup>	X <sup>b</sup>	X <sup>d</sup>			X <sup>o</sup>	8 weeks/ 3 lbs	Not evaluated	Pork liver, soy, barley, wheat, and lactose		
Milbemycin oxime + lufenuron	<b>Sentinel® Flavor Tabs</b> (Merck)	X			X <sup>j</sup>	X <sup>c</sup>	X <sup>b</sup>	X <sup>d</sup>				6 weeks/ 2 lbs	Yes	Artificial beef Pork/soy		
Milbemycin oxime + lufenuron + praziquantel	<b>Sentinel® Spectrum®</b> (Merck)	X			X <sup>j</sup>	X <sup>c</sup>	X <sup>b</sup>	X <sup>d</sup>	X <sup>f</sup>			6 weeks/ 2 lbs	Not evaluated	Beef		
Milbemycin oxime + spinosad	<b>Trifexis®</b> (Elanco)	X			X <sup>n</sup>	X <sup>c</sup>	X <sup>b</sup>	X <sup>d</sup>				8 weeks/ 5 lbs	Use with caution	Artificial beef Pork liver/ hydrolyzed soy		
Moxidectin + afoxolaner + pyrantel	<b>NEXGARD® PLUS</b> (Boehringer Ingelheim)	X			X <sup>n</sup>	X <sup>13</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>b</sup>				8 weeks/ 4 lbs	Not evaluated	None		
Moxidectin + sarolaner + pyrantel pamoate	<b>Simparica® Trio</b> (Zoetis)	X			X <sup>k</sup>	X <sup>7</sup>	X <sup>m</sup>	X <sup>b</sup>				8 weeks/ 2.8 lbs	Not evaluated	Pork		
Moxidectin + lotilaner + praziquantel + pyrantel	<b>Credelio Quattro™</b> (Elanco)	X			X <sup>n</sup>	X <sup>4</sup>	X <sup>11</sup>	X <sup>b</sup>		X <sup>12</sup>		8 weeks/ 3.3 lbs	Not evaluated	Meat allergen free		
<b>Injectable Administration (every 6 or 12 months)</b>																
Moxidectin	<b>ProHeart® 6</b> (Zoetis)	X					X <sup>o</sup>					6 months/ 5 lbs	Yes			
	<b>ProHeart® 12</b> (Zoetis)	X					X <sup>o</sup>					12 months/ 5 lbs	Yes			
<b>Topical Administration (monthly spot-on)</b>																
Moxidectin + imidacloprid	<b>Advantage Multi®</b> (Elanco), <b>Barrier®</b> (Aurora), <b>IMOXI™</b> (Vetoquinol USA), <b>Midamox®</b> (Norbrook), <b>PARASEDGE™ Multi</b> (Virbac)	X	X		X <sup>n</sup>		X <sup>p</sup>	X <sup>q</sup>	X <sup>d</sup>			X <sup>u</sup>	X <sup>r</sup>	7 weeks/ 3 lbs	Not evaluated	
Selamectin	<b>Revolution®</b> (Zoetis), <b>Paradyne®</b> (Vethical), <b>Senergy™</b> (Virbac), <b>Selarid™</b> (Norbrook), <b>Revolt™</b> (Aurora)	X			X <sup>z</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>						X <sup>u</sup>	X <sup>r</sup>	6 weeks/ no minimum weight	Yes	

PREVENTIVES FOR CATS		Dirofilaria immitis		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						
<b>Oral Administration (monthly tablets and chews)</b>															
Milbemycin oxime	<b>Interceptor®</b> (Elanco), <b>MilbeGuard®</b> (Ceva) <b>Milbehart™</b> (Virbac)	X				X <sup>c</sup>	X <sup>e</sup>					6 weeks/ 1.5 lbs	Not evaluated	Beef	
<b>Topical Administration (monthly spot-on; Bravecto PLUS is every 2 months)</b>															
Moxidectin + imidacloprid	<b>Advantage Multi®</b> (Elanco), <b>Barrier®</b> (Aurora), <b>IMOXI™</b> (Vetoquinol USA), <b>PARASEDGE™ Multi</b> (Virbac), <b>Midamox™ for Cats</b> (Norbrook)	X			X <sup>n</sup>		X <sup>s</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>				X <sup>u</sup>	9 weeks/ 1.5 lbs	Not evaluated	
Moxidectin + fluralaner	<b>Bravecto® PLUS</b> (Merck)	X			X <sup>n</sup>	X <sup>v</sup>	X <sup>s</sup>	X <sup>1</sup>				X <sup>u</sup>	6 months/ 2.6 lbs	Not evaluated	
Esafoxolaner + eprinomectin + praziquantel	<b>NEXGARD® COMBO</b> (Boehringer Ingelheim)	X			X <sup>n</sup>	X <sup>4</sup>	X <sup>a</sup>	X <sup>e</sup>	X <sup>5</sup>			8 weeks/ 1.8 lbs	Not evaluated		
Selamectin	<b>Revolution®</b> (Zoetis), <b>Paradyne®</b> (Vethical), <b>Revolt™</b> (Aurora), <b>Senergy™</b> (Virbac), <b>Selarid®</b> (Norbrook)	X			X <sup>k</sup>		X <sup>m</sup>	X <sup>e</sup>				X <sup>u</sup>	8 weeks/ no minimum weight	Yes	
Selamectin + sarolaner	<b>Revolution® PLUS</b> (Zoetis)	X			X <sup>k</sup>	X <sup>2</sup>	X <sup>m</sup>	X <sup>e</sup>	X <sup>8</sup>	X <sup>u</sup>		8 weeks/ 2.8 lbs	Not evaluated		

PREVENTIVES FOR FERRETS		Dirofilaria immitis		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					
<b>Topical Administration (monthly spot-on)</b>														
Moxidectin + imidacloprid	<b>Advantage Multi®</b> (Elanco) <b>Midamox™ for Cats</b> (Norbrook)	X			X <sup>n</sup>							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 *A. americanum*, *A. maculatum*, *D. variabilis*, *I. scapularis*; **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; **7** - *A. americanum*, *A. maculatum*, *D. variabilis*, *I. scapularis*, *R. sanguineus*, *Haemaphysalis longicornis*; **8** - Prevention of *Dipylidium caninum* (tapeworm) infections as a direct result of killing *Ctenocephalides felis* vector fleas on the treated cat; **9** - For the treatment of demodicosis (caused by *Demodex canis*); **10** - Prevention of angiostrongylosis by reduction of the level of infection with immature adult (L5) and adult stages of *Angiostrongylus vasorum* (lungworm) with monthly administration; **11** - adult *U. stenocephala*; **12** - *D. caninum*, *T. pisiformis*, and *E. granulosus*; **13** - *I. scapularis*, *R. sanguineus*, *D. variabilis*, *A. americanum*, and *H. longicornis*.