

Nematode

-Dog

Eg *Toxocara canis*, *Ancylostoma caninum*

CS Adult dogs—even dogs that are infected in the uterus of an infected dam—can be repeatedly infected with adult *T. canis* if they are orally infected with a few (25 to 100) infective eggs.

Pups infected in utero may present with ill thrift, failure to gain weight, and a poor hair coat; a pot-bellied appearance is also commonly observed. Pups with heavy infections may expel a large mass of worms in vomitus at 4 to 6 months of age; this phenomenon can cause distress for the client as the worms are large and usually alive when expelled.

Tx- Fenbendazole, milbemycin oxime, moxidectin, and pyrantel pamoate are approved for the treatment of ascarid (*T. canis*, *T. cati*, and/or *Toxascaris leonina*) infections in dogs. Selamectin is also approved for treating *T. cati* in cats. Pyrantel is approved, in combinations with ivermectin or ivermectin and praziquantel, for treatment of *T. canis* and *Toxascaris leonina* infections in dogs. Febantel is approved, in combination with pyrantel and praziquantel, for treatment of *T. canis* and *Toxascaris leonina* infections in dogs.

Control and Prevention

- Puppies and kittens should be routinely dewormed beginning at 2 weeks of age, with deworming repeated every 2 weeks, until the animals are placed on a monthly control product with efficacy against ascarids at 4 to 8 weeks of age.
- To treat potential newly acquired infections, dogs and cats should be maintained on monthly intestinal parasite-control products with efficacy against ascarids.
- Efficacy of the initial dewormings, monthly control product, and client compliance should be monitored by performing a fecal examination 2 to 4 times in the first year and 1 to 2 times per year thereafter, depending on the age of the animal and its prior history of infection.
- Prevention of predation and scavenging activity by keeping cats indoors and dogs confined to a leash or in a fenced yard will limit the opportunity for cats and dogs to acquire infection with ascarids via ingestion of vertebrate hosts or from an environment contaminated with feces from untreated animals.

- Prompt removal of feces from the yard or the litterbox will also help prevent ascarid eggs from remaining as the fecal material decomposes or is dispersed into the environment.
- Enforcing leash laws and requiring owners to remove feces deposited by their dogs can protect public areas from contamination with ascarid eggs.
- To avoid contamination with eggs of *B. procyonis*, raccoons should not be kept as pets and should be discouraged from defecating in areas frequented by people or dogs.

-Cat

Eg *Toxocara cati*, *Ancylostoma tubaeforme*

CS *Toxocara cati* causes ill thrift and a pot-bellied appearance in kittens. Cats are susceptible to infection with this parasite throughout life. In adult cats, irritation of the gastric mucosa by adult *T. cati* ascarids that have migrated from the small intestine may cause vomiting. Adult ascarids are often found in the vomitus of infected cats.

Tx- Fenbendazole, milbemyacin oxime, moxidectin, and pyrantel pamoate are approved for the treatment of ascarid (*T. canis*, *T. cati*, and/or *Toxascaris leonina*) infections in cats. Selamectin is also approved for treating *T. cati* in cats. Pyrantel and febantel are approved for treating *T. cati* in cats. Emodepside is approved for treating *T. cati* in cats.