

# HEARTWORM

Heartworm disease can be deadly.  
Preventative medication is available.

Heartworm is caused by worms that live in the heart and blood vessels that supply blood to the lungs of infected pets.

- Heartworm is transmitted through mosquito bites.
- Without regular testing, the disease is usually only detected after it has progressed.
- Heartworm infected pets may die as a result of damage to the heart and the effects the worms have on blood flow.
- Treatment for heartworm disease is available, but it is very costly and can be very dangerous for your pet.
- Preventative medication can eliminate the need for much more expensive and uncomfortable treatment.
- 85 percent of animals found to have heartworm have not been on a preventative medication.

To test your pet for heartworm, your vet will take a small amount of blood is collected to examine for evidence of infection. This is a quick procedure. You should arrange a test if your pet:

- hasn't been tested
- missed any of last year's monthly medication
- has not had a test in the last two years
- has lived or traveled to an area with a high risk of heartworm such as the southern states

**Monthly medications to prevent heartworm are available from your vet. In Wyoming, heartworm medication needs to be taken from May-November.**

***What you need  
to know to keep  
your pet healthy***



**Fur Kids**  
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