



Tips for Fear Free® Heartworm Treatment

Heartworm treatment can be challenging for dogs, but keeping them calm and quiet can minimize their risk of increased stress. This can become a challenge for active dogs who can become bored, restless, and anxious when confined for lengthy periods. Try these tips to prevent treatment-related stress and facilitate a Fear Free heartworm treatment experience.

1 Ask your veterinarian for stress-relieving options

Your veterinarian can offer suggestions, such as pheromone products and wraps, that can help relieve your dog's treatment-related stress. If your dog's condition allows, your veterinarian may prescribe a short-term medication or supplement to prevent anxiety and stress from winding up while your dog rests.

2 Make mealtimes interesting

Use your dog's love of food to your advantage. Stretch out mealtimes and use them to occupy your dog's mind by getting rid of the bowl. If your dog finds puzzle toys calming and fun, you can hide kibble in a snuffle mat, freeze canned food inside a Kong toy, or provide meals in a puzzle ball—as long as the toy doesn't encourage too much activity or cause tension between pets.

3 Rotate toys and chews

Chew toys or safe, edible chews can provide a few minutes or hours of entertainment, depending on your dog's interest level. Keep things fresh by rotating toys and chews daily so the novelty doesn't wear off, and always supervise your pet when you introduce a new chew toy.

4 Exercise your dog's mind

Enlist the help of a professional trainer to devise entertaining training activities and games that don't require too much movement or activity, but will engage your dog's mind to tire them out.

Prevention is the best treatment

The best way to address confinement stress and provide a Fear Free home environment is to eliminate the need for heartworm treatment by focusing on prevention. Interceptor® Flavor Tabs (milbemycin oxime) and Interceptor® Plus (milbemycin oxime/praziquantel) by Elanco are affordable, palatable, once-monthly oral medications that are easy to administer and effectively protect your pet from heartworms and intestinal worms. Ask your veterinarian how Interceptor®, Interceptor® Plus, and other Elanco products fit into your dog's parasite protection routine.



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INDICATIONS FOR INTERCEPTOR PLUS

Interceptor Plus prevents heartworm disease and treats and controls adult roundworm, hookworm, whipworm, and tapeworm infections in dogs and puppies 6 weeks or older and 2 pounds or greater.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR INTERCEPTOR PLUS

Treatment with fewer than 6 monthly doses after the last exposure to mosquitoes may not provide complete heartworm prevention. Prior to administration of Interceptor Plus, dogs should be tested for existing heartworm infections. The safety of Interceptor Plus has not been evaluated in dogs used for breeding or in lactating females. The following adverse reactions have been reported in dogs after administration of milbemycin oxime or praziquantel: vomiting, diarrhea, decreased activity, incoordination, weight loss, convulsions, weakness, and salivation. For complete safety information, please see Interceptor Plus product label or ask your veterinarian.

INDICATIONS

Interceptor for Dogs is indicated for the prevention of heartworm disease, the control of adult hookworm *Ancylostoma caninum*, and the removal and control of adult roundworm *Toxocara canis*, *Toxascaris leonina* and adult whipworm *Trichuris vulpis* infections in dogs and puppies 4 weeks of age or greater and 2 pounds of body weight or greater.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION FOR DOGS

Dogs should be tested for heartworm infection prior to use. In a small percentage of treated dogs, digestive and neurologic side effects may occur. Please see full product label for more information.

