

## EARLY DETECTION GUIDE

Now is a good time to start.



# Now is a good time



Your pet can't talk and often shows no signs when something is wrong. So how do you know? Early Detection and today is a good time to start.

Early Detection is not one test, a series of tests or just one visit. It's a new way of caring for your pet, just like human medicine allows us to care for ourselves. Medical advancements enable your doctor to diagnose potential diseases before they become a serious issue including heartworm, thyroid disease and intestinal parasites. With today's medical testing and technology, you can protect your pets like never before.



## Dog Care

Dogs should be carefully monitored from day one, especially after the age of 7 - which is like 44-56 in human years. From puppy through adulthood, you should be monitoring for common diseases like heartworm, thyroid disease, intestinal parasites and, most importantly,

renal disease. As dogs age, just like you, arthritis can become a crippling problem. Early detection can really help extend your dog's life.

DOG AGE (in years)	HUMAN AGE (in years, based on weight)			
	<20 lb	21-50 lb	51-90 lb	>90 lb
6	40	42	45	49
7	44	47	50	56
8	48	51	55	64
9	52	56	61	71
10	56	60	66	78
11	60	65	72	86
12	64	69	77	93
13	68	74	82	101
14	72	78	88	108
15	76	83	93	115
16	80	87	99	123
17	84	92	104	
18	88	96	109	
19	92	101	115	
20	96	105	120	



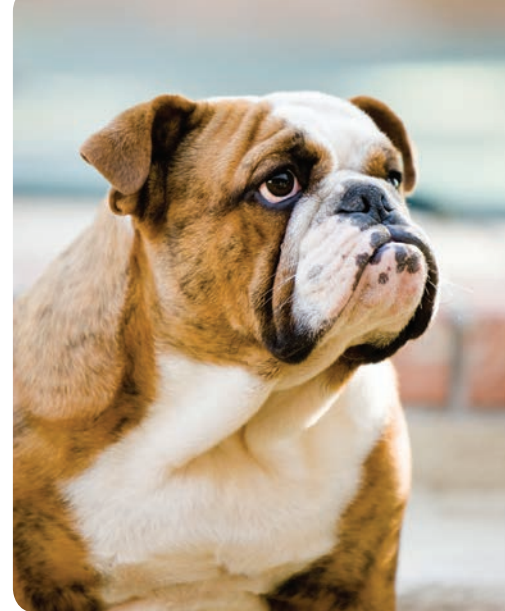
## Cat Care

Just like dogs, cats need to be monitored from kitten to adult. Young cats are especially prone to urinary tract problems and intestinal parasites and most cats are seniors at the age of seven, which is 40-45 in human years. As a senior, careful monitoring becomes even more

important as disorders, such as thyroid and renal disease, become very common. Early Detection and treatment can make a difference in your cat's life.

CAT AGE (in years)	HUMAN AGE (in years)
5	36
6	40
7	44
8	48
9	52
10	56
11	60
12	64
13	68
14	72
15	76
16	80
17	84
18	88
19	92
20	96
21	100

# What can the Early Detection Program Really Detect?



By following our simple program, many diseases can be caught early depending on the age of your pet. Catching a disease early can make all the difference, adding years to your pet's life.

## Did you know?

- If detected early, 75% of common diseases in dogs and 63% of common diseases in cats can be prevented by dietary modifications alone over a one-year period.
- Kidney disease is one of the major causes of illness and death in dogs and cats, but symptoms do not usually appear until 2/3 of kidney function has been lost. If caught early, the animal can live with this condition for many years.
- If a liver problem is detected at early stage of disease and is administered proper treatment, the chance of your pet's recovery is in your favor.
- Early detection of diabetes is extremely important because an early therapy regimen can be more effective and easier on the animal. Detecting and monitoring diabetes early can also prevent damage to other organs.

### Dogs & Cats – 1-6 years old

Heartworm  
Intestinal Parasites and Intestinal issues/Malnutrition  
Diabetes  
Kidney Disease  
Liver Disease  
Infection or Inflammation  
Anemia or Leukemia  
Addison's Disease (disorder of the adrenal glands that can affect a dog as young as 6 months)

### Dogs & Cats – 7 years and older

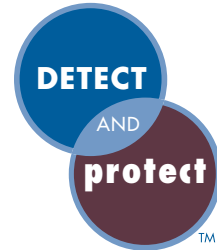
Kidney Disease, Decreased Kidney Function or Urinary Bladder Disorder  
Liver Disease  
Intestinal Parasites and Intestinal Disorders  
Liver Disease and Pancreatic Inflammation  
Jaundice  
Parathyroid Disorder  
Adrenal Disease  
Muscle Injury  
Diabetes  
Hypothyroidism in Dogs and Hyperthyroidism in Cats  
Infection and Inflammation  
Anemia or Leukemia

# Intestinal Parasites: What's living in your yard?

Most people think of fleas and ticks when they think of parasites. Think again! Not only are there five common parasites but dogs and cats can share them easily and pass them to you and your family.

## Children are a Target

Most parasites can be found in sandboxes, dirt, grass – a natural playground for kids. Parasites are released through an animal's feces and eggs can live in an environment for months.



## DETECT

### What are the signs your pet might be infected?

- Acute or chronic diarrhea
- Poor hair coat
- Vomiting
- Decreased appetite
- Pot-belly look
- Weight loss

### How do you detect parasites?

Sometimes there are no symptoms, especially in the early stages. Part of your Early Detection Program is a fecal exam to test for parasites. Make sure to bring a fresh fecal sample that's less than 24 hours old to your visit. Your doctor only needs a sample the size of a grape.

The Companion Animal Parasite Council recommends the following fecal test schedule:

PUPPIES AND KITTENS	2-4 times a year
ADULT DOGS AND CATS <i>Not taking broad-spectrum heartworm preventative medication</i>	2-4 times a year
ADULT DOGS AND CATS <i>Taking broad-spectrum heartworm preventative medication</i>	1-2 times a year

## TRUE OR FALSE

**Kids can get parasites in the sandbox.**

**True**

The sandbox is a perfect home for infective larvae left by dogs and cats.

**Dog parks are traditionally safe from parasites.**

**False**

Dog parks are a perfect place to share parasites.

## PROTECT

- See your veterinarian annually and test regularly for parasites
- Remove your pet's feces from your yard as often as possible
- Wash your hands well with water (teach your kids too) after playing with pets and coming in from the outdoors
- Teach your kids to not eat dirt
- Avoid areas that have been soiled with animal stool
- Check your pet's bed area frequently
- Don't let your pet drink out of the toilet or eat raw meat
- Avoid pets from licking your family on the mouth vs. in the mouth

## What harm can parasites cause?

### PETS

- Allergic reactions
- Blood loss and anemia
- Damage to internal organs
- Nutrient loss and release of toxins into the body

### PEOPLE

- Digestive problems
- Liver and lung damage
- Partial or total blindness
- Itchy, skin lesions

# Your Index Guide to Parasites

Internal parasites are organisms that live inside other living organisms. They come in all shapes and sizes and can only be seen by a microscope. Use the chart below to be in the know about common parasites and their transmission.

## ROUNDWORM

### What is it?:

Found in the small intestine of a dog or cat. Looks like spaghetti.

### Affects:

Dogs, Cats (Usually found in puppies and kittens.)

### How is it transmitted?

Consuming infective worm eggs in the soil via normal grooming. Ingesting a rodent with worms. Most kittens get the parasite by nursing. Most puppies get it in the embryonic stage. Kids eating dirt or playing in sandboxes.

### Signs to look for:

Diarrhea, vomiting. Puppy has a pot-bellied look. Often no signs.



## HOOKWORM

### What is it?:

Found in the small intestine and sucks blood. Hangs onto the wall of the intestine using sharp teeth.

### Commonly Affects:

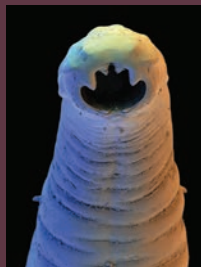
Puppies, Can affect humans.

### How is it transmitted?

Puppies and kittens get it from mom. Present in soil and transmitted during normal grooming. For humans, penetrates skin through feet or belly.

### Signs to look out for:

Pale, weak. Red, itchy lesions on humans.



## TAPEWORM

### What is it?:

Found in the small intestine. An entire tapeworm is usually 6 inches or more long.

### Affects:

Dogs, Cats

### How is it transmitted?

When a dog or cat licks a flea that has consumed tapeworm larvae.

### Signs to look out for:

Sesame type seeds near the pet's bed. These are dried up tapeworm segments.



## GIARDIA

### What is it?:

Found in the small intestine and under the microscope - looks like a smiley face.

### Commonly Affects:

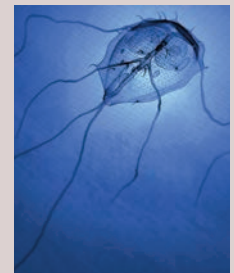
Dogs, cats. Common in shelters where large groups of animals are housed. Can affect humans.

### How is it transmitted?

Contaminated water. Licking fur that has been in touch with infected feces.

### Signs to look out for:

Excessive gas, soft stool or vomiting. - In pets and humans.



## COCCIDIA

### What is it?:

Single celled organisms that reproduce in intestinal cells, ultimately killing the cell.

### Commonly Affects:

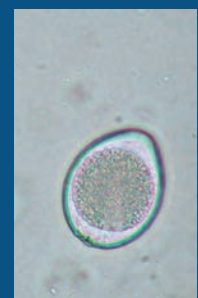
Young kittens and puppies.

### How is it transmitted?

Contaminated water. Licking fur that has been in touch with infected feces.

### Signs to look out for:

Bloody, severe diarrhea.



# Your EDP Program

## 5 Easy Tests, 2 Important Visits a Year



Veterinarians across the country agree that you should visit your doctor twice a year to conduct the following five tests – they make up the Early Detection Panel. Ask your veterinarian for the EDP.

### EARLY DETECTION PANEL - EDP

TEST	SAMPLE	DETECT
Complete Blood Count	Blood	Anemia, Leukemia, Infection, Inflammation
Chemistry Profile	Blood	Liver, Kidney, Pancreas, Muscle and Bone
Thyroid Function Test	Blood	Hyperthyroidism, Hypothyroidism
Urinalysis	Urine	Kidney, Glucose, Protein
Parasite Exams	Fecal	Hookworms, whipworms, roundworms, Coccidia, Girardia

Pet Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Visit \_\_\_\_\_

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PARASITE CONTROL

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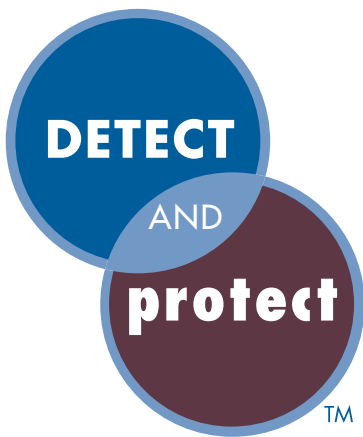
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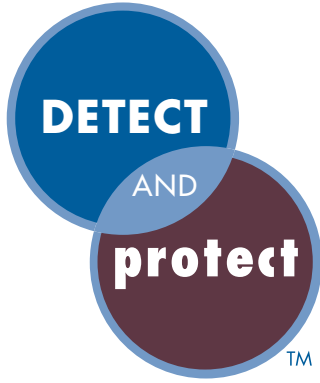
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