

MCLEOD



VETERINARY HOSPITAL

Hours:

Monday – Thursday:
8:00 am – 9:30 pm

Friday:
8:00 am – 6:00 pm

Saturday & Sunday:
8:30 am – 3:00 pm

Just a friendly reminder
that we will be **closed**
on the following days:

April 10, 2020

April 12, 2020

May 18, 2020



**CANADIAN
ANIMAL
BLOOD
BANK**
BANQUE DE SANG
CANADIENNE
POUR ANIMAUX

McLeod Veterinary Hospital
hosts regular Canadian Animal
Blood Bank (CABB) donor clinics.
For information about upcoming
donation dates and to find out
if your pet is an eligible donor,
contact us at 204-661-3334
or visit

www.canadiananimalbloodbank.ca

McLeod Veterinary Hospital
880 McLeod Avenue
Winnipeg MB R2G 2T7
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Spring 2020

Coccidia Infections in Dogs and Cats

At some point in most pet's lives they will have soft stool or diarrhea. This can be the result of any number of conditions. In young pets or those with compromised immune systems; a possible cause could be coccidiosis.

Coccidia are a microscopic, single-celled organism that can infect the intestine of both our canine and feline companions. The main clinical sign that you will notice as pet owners is bloody, watery diarrhea.

Pets can acquire coccidial infections by one of two ways. The first is by ingesting contaminated fecal material. The second method would be through eating an infected animal (most commonly mice). Then during digestion, coccidial spores are released into the intestinal tract of your pet.

When diarrhea is a concern, your veterinarian will recommend running a fecal test. The veterinary technologists at McLeod Veterinary Hospital are well versed at identifying different organisms, including coccidia. This will allow for proper and accurate treatment for your furry friend.

Traditional deworming medications will not affect coccidia and require a particular medication. This treatment is in the form of a pill that is given for a minimum of five days, longer if necessary. Once the prescription is completed another fecal sample should be run to ensure the infection is cleared.

The types of coccidia that infect our pets cannot live within us. However, animals of the same species can transmit the organism to each other. If your pet is diagnosed with coccidia clean up after them in a timely manner. This will help to prevent the spread of organisms to other pets in your household and neighbourhood.

Heartgard

Heartgard is given once monthly for heartworm prevention. It comes in the form of a beef flavoured chewable tablet. The tablet does contain real beef, so should not be used in dogs that have beef allergies. One chewable tablet given monthly throughout heartworm season will provide your dog with heartworm prevention and intestinal deworming. Heartgard can safely be paired with prescription flea and tick prevention to provide coverage against common internal and external parasites.

Heartgard is often the dewormer of choice if doctors need to treat your dog for intestinal parasites. This product is effective at treating hookworm and roundworm infections.

Heartgard is safe for all breeds and sizes of dogs, including puppies as early as 6 weeks of age, and pregnant and nursing females.



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VETERINARY HOSPITAL

McLeod Veterinary Hospital Staff Members

Veterinarians

Dr. Robert Newfield
Dr. Alison Bowles
Dr. Jason Kellsey
Dr. Christie-Leigh Capper
Dr. Emily Martens

Veterinary Technologists

Barbe Parke
Cindy Sontag
Amy Weir
Rhianne Hallows
Jennifer Peters
Carolyn Tschernow
Jackie Elias

Receptionists

Martina Korne
Ashley Celhar
Carissa Shaw
Angie Dwornick
August Sontag

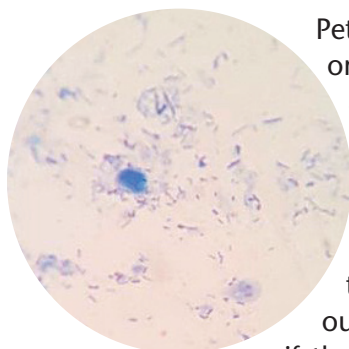
Veterinary Assistants

Romi Scott
Maria Davis
Carley Wiggins
Spenser Pilon
Sherree Estrada
Lindsay Trautwein

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Let's Talk Parasites



Pet owners are often familiar with parasites like tapeworm or heartworm. Giardia is a single-celled organism that will affect both our canine and feline companions. Though not as common as other intestinal parasites and worms, it is no less a concern.

Cats and dogs can acquire Giardia by drinking contaminated water. In the environment, Giardia is in the form of a cyst. This protects the organism while it is outside the body of a host. They can survive for months if the conditions are right. The optimal environment for the cysts' is in the water or soil so long as the temperature is cool and the surroundings damp. Cats and dogs can ingest the cysts accidentally when drinking from a puddle or when grooming themselves.

The only symptom of Giardia that owners notice is diarrhea. In most cases the diarrhea does not contain any blood. Unfortunately, some pets will not show any signs that something is amiss.

There are a few ways to diagnose Giardia. The most common would be to analyse a stool sample under the microscope, but they are not always identifiable. There is also an ELISA test kit available and works in a similar manner to a pregnancy test. As a pet owner, whenever your pet is experiencing diarrhea, always supply your veterinarian with the freshest stool sample possible. This will provide the best and most accurate results.

When treating a Giardia infection your veterinarian will choose the most appropriate medication for your pet. This may be a liquid or pill that you need to administer. Due to the fact that the cysts can stick to your pets' fur, any infected animals should be bathed a couple of times throughout treatment (especially at the end).

There are multiple species of Giardia throughout the world. Most are host specific (only infect one type of animal), but there are some that can thrive in multiple species. This means that there is a small chance of you contracting Giardia from your furry companion. Practicing proper hygiene will help protect you and your family.

Ticks Are Coming Back

March marks that time of year we should start paying attention to the temperature outside. Ticks are a concern for every dog in Manitoba and start becoming active once the temperature reaches 5°C for 5-7 days. The most common types of ticks in our province carry diseases which can be transmitted to your dog, including lyme disease. Traditionally thought to be present only outside the city, an increasing number of dogs within city limits are becoming infected. Dogs limited strictly to their back yard and neighbourhood are at risk of picking up these little bloodsuckers.

The McLeod Veterinary Team can help you determine which product would be most appropriate for your furry companion.

