## Protect your pet from heartworms

## Get the heartworm facts! Prevention costs 15 times less than treatment.

T COSTS: \$1,200 -\$1,800\* to treat heartworm including medications, veterinary fees, post-treatment preventive, lab tests and x-rays.

It's easy to shrug off your veterinarian when she asks if you need heartworm preventive. What are the odds of your pet getting heartworm, anyway? Well, the answer may be: "You don't want to find out."

Take these facts to heart before you dismiss another opportunity to protect your pet from heartworms.

Heartworms are a real danger. Heartworms pose a serious threat to dogs' and cats' health.

Heartworms are transmitted by mosquitoes. Mosquitos can survive and thrive in a variety of climates and environments, can drink three-times their weight in blood and spread heartworm larvae as they feed.

## Mosquito season is impossible to

predict. Year-round protection is essential to ensure protection. It only takes one bite from a mosquito to infect an animal. Mosquitos are more prevalent in warm climates, but heartworm is diagnosed in all 50 states.

## Parasites impact pets and people.

Preventing intestinal parasites in cats and dogs also prevents people from contracting potentially serious diseases.

Heartworm disease is hard to treat. A heartworm infestation is difficult and expensive to treat in dogs and there is no approved treatment for cats. It takes approximately six months for a dog to test positive for heartworms and they can grow more than 12 inches in length living in a dog's heart, lungs or blood vessels for up to seven years. Just one adult heartworm can kill a cat.

Heartworms are easy to prevent. Heartworm preventives are effective and easy to administer to pets. Plus prevention is much cheaper than treatment. Treatment costs more than 15 times that of a year's worth of heartworm preventive. dvm

> 12 MONTHS OF HEARTWORM PREVENTIVE COSTS \$70 - \$200\*