

Choosing Your Pet's Preventatives

	Heart worm	Hook worm	Round worm	Whip worm	Tape worm	Rat Lung worm	Fleas + fast -slow	Flea Egg& Larva	Ticks	Approximate Cost by Weight in Pounds per Month																											
										4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44	48	52	56	60	64	68	72	76	80	84	88	92	96	100	104	108	112
ProHeart 12	x	x				x				1.87	3.66	5.53	7.40	9.34	11.05	12.92	14.79	16.66	18.45																		
Heartgard Plus	x	x	x							6.16			7.93			9.51																					
Sentinel Spectrum	x	x	x	x	x			x		7.02	7.33	8.77			10.60																						
Trifexis	x	x	x	x			+ x			19.47	19.84	20.58			20.95			21.66																			
Simparica Trio	x	x	x			x	+ x	x	x	22.32	23.19	24.67			25.83			26.19																			
Advantage Multi	x	x	x	x		x	- x	x		20.00																											
Advantix II							- x	x	x	11.67																											
Frontline Plus							- x	x	x	13.50																											
Seresto Collar							- x	x	x	7.93																											
Nexgard							+ x	x	x	20.23			20.52			20.74																					
Revolution(Dogs)	x						- x	x	- x	16.59	17.05	17.25			17.38			22.14																			
Revolution+(Cats)	x	x	x				+ x	x	- x	19.60	20.10																										
Bravecto+ (Cats)	x	x	x			x	+ x	x	x	22.00																											
Cheristin							+ x			12.67																											
Pyrantel		x	x							\$5-10 per treatment																											
Fenbendazole		x	x	x	+/-					10.00	15.00	20.00			40.00			\$50-60 per treatment																			

There are so many good products available to help keep pets healthy. No product does absolutely everything, so we use each pet's medical history, exposure potential and your budget to help guide our recommendations. Below are some general guidelines to help you decide which products to use for your pet:

- 1) Heartworm Preventatives:** All prescription heartworm preventatives do a good job of preventing heartworm disease, but they must be given consistently.
 - If you are great at remembering to give heartworm prevention monthly, then Heartgard Plus, Sentinel or Sentinel Spectrum are excellent.
 - If you are terrible at remembering to give a monthly preventative, then ProHeart 12 is your best option because it is one injection given yearly.
- 2) Intestinal Parasite Preventatives:** Hookworms and Roundworms are the most common intestinal worms in dogs and cats that we are concerned about controlling, and they can also be spread to humans. Whipworms, a problem in dogs, are less common but their eggs tend to stay in the environment for a long time. Tapeworms are seen intermittently in dogs and cats, mostly due to flea exposure but also due to eating raw meat or rodents.
 - All pets should take a monthly heartworm preventative that treats hookworms and roundworms or deworm with pyrantel or fenbendazole every 6 months.
 - Pets with a history of whipworms should take a monthly heartworm preventative that treats whipworms.
 - Pets can be treated for tapeworms when white tapeworm segments (that look like grains of rice) are seen on the stool the pet's fur or monthly if recurring.
- 3) Flea Preventatives and Tick Preventatives:** Trifexis, Simparica Trio and Nexgard oral treatments are faster flea-kill products than topical Frontline, Advantix, Revolution, Serresto and Advantage Multi, so they are better for pets sensitive to flea bites or those who live in or visit places where fleas and ticks are more prevalent. Topical medications are cheaper and do work for some pets. For low-exposure pets, treating as needed instead of every month may work.
- 4) Rat Lungworm:** Rat lungworm can be transmitted to dogs and cats by slugs, snails, freshwater prawns or shrimp, frogs, toads, lizards, land crabs, centipedes and flatworms. It can cause neurologic symptoms, difficulty walking, pain along the spine and incontinence. Moxidectin is one of few products used to kill rat lungworm: Advantage Multi, Simparica Trio, Bravecto Plus for cats and Proheart 12 are moxidectin products. Advantage Multi and Bravecto Plus achieve the highest steady concentrations of moxidectin, while Simparica Trio for dogs will pulse-treat dogs once a month – these are the options we prefer.

We prefer that preventatives come from a reputable source to prevent you from getting counterfeit products. Our hospital carries brand-name medications due to reliability, palatability and performance. We try to maximize discounts – and we are often cheaper than online pharmacies. Generic medications are available for some of the brand name medications above - check our online pharmacy at www.aliivet.com (click on "Online Pharmacy" tab in upper right corner of the home page then search "heartworm" and Flea/Tick for options. We can authorize appropriate prescriptions from a licensed web or local pharmacy if your pet has been examined by one of our veterinarians in the last year. Our goal is to provide you with information you need to make the best decisions for your pet.