

Common Intestinal Parasites

TAPEWORMS



A flat segmented worm that is contracted by ingesting a flea. Some can describe the segments to look similar to a “grain of rice”. These parasites can be detected in 2-3 weeks after infection has occurred. Dogs, cats, humans and other animals can contract tapeworms from ingesting a flea themselves but not directly from an infected animal.

ROUNDWORMS



A white worm that is contracted by contaminated soil, feces, a puppy or kitten ingesting an infected mother’s milk, and in utero. Humans can contract this intestinal parasite. These parasites can be detected in 2-3 weeks after infection has occurred.

HOOKWORMS



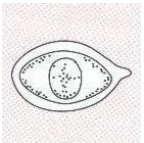
This parasite primarily lives in the soil and can infect animals through their skin and if the animal ingests it. It is a white long worm with a hook shaped tail. Humans can contract this parasite. These parasites can be detected in 13-27 days after infection has occurred.

WHIPWORMS



This parasite also resides in the soil. Typically an animal ingests or licks its paws and consumes the larvae, eggs, or the parasite. Humans can contract this parasite. These parasites can be detected in 70-90 days after infection has occurred.

COCCIDIA



A tiny single-celled parasite primarily found in younger animals but they can also infect older cats and dogs. This parasite is spread in animal feces and soil contaminated with feces. This parasite is not zoonotic, meaning it cannot be passed to humans. These parasites can be detected in 13 days after infection has occurred.

GIARDIA



A tiny single-celled parasite more frequently seen in puppies and kittens, but can infect older pets as well. Animals may become infected by consuming giardia in water or be in contact with other substances that may have soiled by contaminated feces. This parasite can be passed to humans. These parasites can be detected in 3-10 days after infection has occurred.