Protecting against Lungworm

The lungworm *Angiostrongylus Vasorum* is a parasite which can infect dogs of any age, with one in five cases proving fatal. Once a problem in isolated pockets of the country, over the past ten years lungworm has spread, with cases now common in Surrey and London. It is important that you protect your dog.

To help prevent your dog contracting lungworm we are offering clients a special offer of twelve months Advocate treatment for the cost of just nine months.

**What is Lungworm?**

Lungworm is a potentially life threatening parasite which infects dogs and foxes via the garden snail and slug or their mucus trail. The parasitic worm is ingested by the dog and enters the blood stream in the small intestine. From there it migrates to the heart and lungs.

**How can I prevent Lungworm?**

Treatment is available and can result in full recovery. However, given the potential risks from the parasite, we strongly recommend the regular use of prescription preventative medication. Not all worming products are effective against lungworm so we advise the monthly application of “ADVOCATE” for life. Advocate also has the advantage of protecting your dog against fleas, demodectic and sarcoptic (fox) mange, ear mites, roundworms, hookworms and whipworms. In addition to the monthly Advocate application you will also need to use “DRONTAL PLUS” tablets every six months to treat tapeworm. Your dog is then covered for all the common parasites.

**How does my dog catch Lungworm?**

If your dog accidently swallows a slug or snail, there is a risk of infection. Such inadvertent ingestion, especially of small slugs and snails, may occur when dogs are drinking from outdoor water bowls, eating grass, playing with toys left out in the garden, or rummaging through the undergrowth.

**What are the signs?**

Lungworm can present in a number of different ways - some typical, others very unusual, mimicking other illnesses. Breathing problems, coughing and lethargy are common. Abnormal blood clotting may lead to excessive bleeding from the skin, from internal organs or into the brain and spinal cord. Weight loss, poor appetite, vomiting and diarrhoea may also occur.

**Wingrave’s Special Offer:**

3 Months Free Advocate Treatment

To encourage and promote the regular use of Advocate we are pleased to offer clients a special discount. This offer enables you to protect your dog against lungworm for a year, for the cost of just nine months treatment. It is available at all our surgeries.

Contact us today to benefit from the offer.

To learn more about the services we offer at Wingrave, visit our website

[www.wingravevets.com](http://www.wingravevets.com)

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