



CONTENTS

TICKS & FLEAS

- Break the cycle!
- Choosing the right products
- Treatment options

TRAVELS Planning ahead and taking safety precautions is important

MAKING VET VISITS LESS STRESSFUL

There are things you can do to help your cat relax during trips to the vet

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It is SPRING and with the rise in temperature, flea and tick numbers will increase and so too will the cases of Flea allergic dermatitis (FAD) and biliary.

FAD is an allergic reaction to the saliva of the flea which is "injected" into the dog or cat when the flea bites them. Just one bite in sensitive animals can result in severe itching and self-trauma. To start with the area is just red but as the itch intensifies and the pet starts to scratch, bumps and crusts develop, and the hair begins to fall out leaving very painful raw patches. No matter where the flea bites your pet, the area affected is usually over the lower back, base of the tail, down the back of the legs and around the neck.

Veterinary treatment may be necessary to relieve pain and to treat secondary bacterial infections of the skin, but the key to "treatment" is prevention. Keeping these pets' flea free is paramount to controlling this irritating condition. Fleas on and off the pet must be eliminated.

Using highly effective products to control fleas on your pet on a monthly basis (or in the case of BRAVECTO, every 3 months), breaks the flea's life cycle. They do this by killing the adult fleas quickly before they are able to lay eggs, and so the life cycle is broken, and fleas are eliminated from the environment.

Ticks can transmit the babesia parasite to

dogs and cats when they bite them, and this parasite cause biliary. Biliary is a very serious disease that can be fatal or even cause long term liver and kidney disease. Once again prevention is better than cure.

The babesia parasite is not transmitted immediately the tick bites, but only after sustained feeding. It is therefore important to use a product that kills the tick quickly before this transmission has occurred. As with fleas, if the adults are killed before they have finished feeding, they will not lay eggs and the number of ticks in the environment will be reduced. But unfortunately, most ticks are picked up when we take our dogs for walks out of their usual environments and cats that have access to the outdoors, go where they please and can too pick up ticks and fleas.

Other ectoparasites such as ear mites, sarcoptic and demodex mange mites are also controlled by some of the products that are used for ticks and fleas. FAD can be confused with mange but by using a product that controls fleas, ticks and mites, all bases will be covered leaving your pet itch free.

However, choosing a product to control these ectoparasites can be daunting as there are many on the market. Have in your mind what you are wanting to achieve with the product, for example, do you want to treat just fleas, or ticks and fleas. If your pet suffers from FAD or you know you have biliary ticks in

Choosing the right products...



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your area, it is important to use products that kill the flea or tick quickly and sustain this control until the next dose is due. The products also come in different formulations: chews, oral tablets, sprays, spot ons, etc. Choose what best suits your pet.



- Nexgard
- Bravecto
- Advocate
- Credelio
- Frontline
- Revolution





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And for cats...

- Bravecto Spot On
- Broadline
- Frontline
- Fiprotec
- Revolution



Preventative management of ectoparasites is far better than treating the diseases they cause. Management can be started from as early as 2 months of age and should be continued throughout your pets' life The importance of making flea and tick prevention part of your routine management of your cats and dogs cannot be emphasised enough.

Order Bravecto and get a FREE dog lead. Get a small shoulder backpack when you order anything from the Broadline, Nexgard or Frontline range.





PARASITE TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR DOGS



Product Name	Fleas	Ticks	Mites	Worms	Other	Tablet	Spot on	Spray	Shampoo /Dip	Collar	Dosing Interval	
Advantage	Х						Х				4 Weeks	
Advantix	Х	Х			Kills mosquitoes /repels flies		Х				4 Weeks	
Advocate	х		Х	Х	Spiracerca lupi/ lice		Х				4 Weeks	
Bayticol		Х							Х		2 Weeks	
Bayopet	Х	Х								Х		
Bravecto	Х	Х	Х			Х					3 Months	
Bravecto spot on	Х	Х	Х				Х				ticks 4 Months	
Capstar	х					Х					No long term effect, knock down only	
Credelio	Х	Х				Х					4 Weeks	
Exspot-spot on	Х	х			Repels flies		Х				Can be used on puppies from 2 weeks old	
Fiprotec	Х	Х					Х	Х			Fleas 8 weeks	
Frontline	Х	Х					Х	Х			4 Weeks	
Nexgard	Х	Х	Х			Х					4 Weeks	
Nexgard Spectra	х	х	Х	Х		Х					4 Weeks	
Revolution	Х		Х	Х			Х				4 Weeks	
Seresto Collar	Х	Х	Sarcops							Х	8 Months	
Simparica	Х	Х	Х								4 Weeks	
Taktic		Х	Х		Lice				Х		1 Week	
Ultrum	Х	Х						_	Powder		4 - 7 days	
Vets Own	Х	Х							Powder		1 Week	

PARASITE TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR CATS



Product Name	Fleas	Ticks	Mites	Worms	Other	Tablet	Spot On	Spray	Shampoo/Dip	Collar	Dosing interval
Advantage	Х						Х				4 Weeks
Advocate	Х		Х	Х	Ear mites		х				4 Weeks
Bayopet	Х	Х								Х	
Bravecto Plus	Х	Х	Х	Х			Х				3 months
Bravecto spot on	X	х	х				х				3 Months
Broadline	Х	Х	Х	Х	Tape worm		Х				fleas 7 weeks
Fiprotec	Х	Х					Х				Fleas 5 weeks
Frontline	Х	Х					Х	Х			4 weeks
Revolution	Х	Х	Х	Х	Ear mites		Х				4 Weeks
Seresto	Х	Х								Х	8 months





For some pet parents, a trip is no fun if the fourlegged members of the family can't come along. But travelling can be highly stressful, both for you and your pets. If you're planning to take a trip with pets in tow, we have some tips to help ensure a safe and comfortable journey for everyone.

Remember, no matter where you're headed, make sure that your pet has a microchip for identification and wears a collar with a tag imprinted with your home address, as well as a temporary travel tag with your cell phone, destination phone number and any other relevant contact information. Dogs should wear flat (never choke!) collars. In addition, place a "Dog on board" sticker prominently on your car so that in the case of an emergency, those who come to your assistance will know to look for your pet. Ensure that you have the contact details of a family member, friend or even a veterinarian in your wallet, or displayed where emergency personnel would see them.

PLAN AHEAD AND SAFETY FIRST

Travelling with a pet involves more than just loading them in the back seat and motoring off – especially if you'll be driving long distances or plan to be away for a long time. Here are four handy hints for a safe and comfortable journey:

1.If you are going on a long trip, keep your pets safe and secure in a well-ventilated crate or carrier. There are a variety of wire mesh, hard plastic and soft-sided carriers available. Whatever you choose, make sure it's large enough for your pet to stand, sit, lie down and turn around in. And, it's a good idea to get your pet used to the carrier in the comfort of your home before your trip. There are also several types of dog restraints available on the market, so do your research and get the best-quality restraint possible. As with a crate, get your dog used to the restraint before leaving on a long trip.

2.Get your pet geared up for a long trip by taking him on a series of short drives first, gradually lengthening time spent in the car. If you are using a carrier or crate, be sure to always secure it so it won't slide or shift in the event of a sudden stop.

3.Your pet's travel-feeding schedule should start with a light meal three to four hours prior to departure. Don't feed your furry friend in a moving vehicle, even if it is a long drive.

4. Never ever leave your dog alone in a parked vehicle. On a hot day, even with the windows open, the temperature inside a car can become dangerously high very quickly, leading to dehydration, hyperthermia and death.





There are things you can do to help your cat relax during trips to the vet

Feline healthcare may never be a picnic, but you can make it more manageable with our five tips for making vet visits less stressful for your cat.

One of the best things you can do for your cat is to give him regular head-to-tail check-ups at home. Even if you don't know what you're looking for, simply getting him used to being handled will help enormously at the vet. What's more, those home check-ups mean you're more likely to notice a problem with your cat should one grise.

Another very important stress reducer is getting your pet is accustomed to being in a carrier. If he only gets into the carrier to see the vet, chances are he'll resist it. Instead, create a link between the carrier and fond feelings by incorporating the carrier into your daily lives. Let your cat use it as a nap space and offer treats when he's inside. You could also try occasionally leaving it open on the living room floor, incorporating it into playtime with your favourite feline friend.

Cool and calm

Going to the vet is inevitably going to create some stress and anxiety in your cat. You can reduce this by offering plenty of love and affection before the trip. It may help calm you too; studies suggest that petting and playing

with pets can reduce stress levels in humans. This is a great ritual for the hour before your vet visit.

Cats and cars

Much of what sets cats on edge during vet visits is the journey, not the destination. As a general rule, cats hate cars. This is because cats like things to be familiar and predictable, and cars are not a typical part of any cat's daily life. Cats' aversion to cars is reinforced by the fact that, for many, the only time they go inside a vehicle is on the dreaded vet visit.

Start by taking short drives and gradually increase the length of your excursions. The goal in acclimating your pet to car travel is to dissociate it from the vet experience.

Waiting patiently

The waiting room of a veterinary office can be a very scary place for felines - filled with barking dogs, hissing cats, and any number of anxious humans. It's normal for your pet to be nervous in this setting. This is why it's best to leave your cat in his carrier rather than take him into your arms in the waiting room. Not only will he feel safer, he'll be less likely to scratch you in an effort to break free or to get into a skirmish with another animal.





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Email - thevet@vetproductsonline.co.za Website - www.vetproductsonline.co.za Telephone - +27 (0) 33 263 1608



