

Heartworm Treatment Aftercare Instructions

Your dog has been treated with a medication to kill heartworms. It is important for you to follow these guidelines for post-treatment care. If you do not, you place your dog's health and life at risk.

- Strict rest for four (4) weeks
- Your dog's physical activities must be limited - no rough-housing, no running, no exercise, no back yard play. Short leash walks outside to permit the dog a chance to relieve itself are allowed.
- Feed your dog a normal diet, but remember that reduced exercise also means the dog will need fewer calories to maintain its weight.
- Your dog will be sent home with anti-inflammatory medications and antibiotics. Use the medication(s) as directed on the prescription label.

If any of the following occur, please call the clinic at 678-838-7387 to have your dog seen as soon as possible by the veterinarian:

- Severe coughing (Your dog could have some symptoms related to the lungs. He/she will probably have mild coughing for awhile.)
- Coughing up blood
- Lethargy, listlessness or collapse
- Loss of appetite

One Month after the date of treatment make an appointment for a brief exam (The cost of the exam will be \$30.00) and we will start your dog on heartworm preventative at this time.

Four Months after the date of treatment make an appointment for a brief exam (The cost of the exam will be \$30.00) and your dog will be retested for heartworms to make sure all the adult heartworms were eliminated. (The cost of the heartworm test is \$31.50)

Ongoing it is very important to keep your dog on heartworm preventative for life. A second bout of heartworms does not have good prognosis.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the clinic at 678-838-7387