

# HEARTWORMS, ROUNDWORMS & HOOKWORMS.

**SHARE THE FACTS.** Talk to your clients about the threat these parasites pose to all dogs.

## HEARTWORMS



- 1 Heartworms can lead to severe problems with the heart, lungs, liver and kidneys.
- 2 Heartworm larvae are transmitted through infected mosquitoes. They can be deposited in a dog with a single mosquito bite.
- 3 Heartworm disease can lead to death. It is costly and painful to treat.
- 4 **Heartworm disease is preventable.**

## ROUNDWORMS



T. CANIS



T. LEONINA

- 1 Roundworms are the most common internal parasite among dogs.
- 2 Adult roundworms live in the intestine. A large population of adult roundworms can block the intestinal tract.
- 3 Dogs become infected with roundworms through the placenta, from nursing, or through contact with feces from an infected animal.
- 4 **Roundworms can be treated and controlled.**

## HOOKWORMS



A. CANINUM



U. STENOCEPHALA



A. BRAZILIENSE

- 1 Hookworms feed on the intestinal lining of infected dogs, resulting in blood loss and inflammation.
- 2 This can lead to anemia, debilitation and death, particularly in puppies.
- 3 Hookworms can be spread through the ingestion of contaminated soil or feces, directly through the skin, or from nursing.
- 4 **Hookworms can be treated and controlled.**

**HELP PREVENT, TREAT AND CONTROL with the  
Real-Beef Chewable dogs love, so it's easy to give.**



**Heartgard<sup>®</sup>**  
(ivermectin/pyrantel) **Plus**



HEARTWORMS



HOOKWORMS/  
ROUNDWORMS



PUPPIES  
@ 6 WEEKS



PREFERRED<sup>™</sup>



SATISFACTION  
GUARANTEED<sup>®</sup>

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION: HEARTGARD Plus is well tolerated. All dogs should be tested for heartworm infection before starting a preventive program. Following the use of HEARTGARD, digestive and neurological side effects have rarely been reported. For more information, contact your veterinarian or visit [www.HEARTGARD.com](http://www.HEARTGARD.com)

# Heartgard® (ivermectin/pyrantel) Plus

## CHEWABLES

**CAUTION:** Federal (U.S.A.) law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.

**INDICATIONS:** For use in dogs to prevent canine heartworm disease by eliminating the tissue stage of heartworm larvae (*Dirofilaria immitis*) for a month (30 days) after infection and for the treatment and control of ascarids (*Toxocara canis*, *Toxascaris leonina*) and hookworms (*Ancylostoma caninum*, *Uncinaria stenocephala*, *Ancylostoma braziliense*).

**DOSAGE:** HEARTGARD® Plus (ivermectin/pyrantel) should be administered orally at monthly intervals at the recommended minimum dose level of 6 mcg of ivermectin per kilogram (2.72 mcg/lb) and 5 mg of pyrantel (as pamoate salt) per kg (2.27 mg/lb) of body weight. The recommended dosing schedule for prevention of canine heartworm disease and for the treatment and control of ascarids and hookworms is as follows:

Dog Weight	Chewables Per Month	Ivermectin Content	Pyrantel Content	Color Coding On Foil Backing and Carton
Up to 25 lb	1	68 mcg	57 mg	Blue
26 to 50 lb	1	136 mcg	114 mg	Green
51 to 100 lb	1	272 mcg	227 mg	Brown

HEARTGARD Plus is recommended for dogs 6 weeks of age and older. For dogs over 100 lb use the appropriate combination of these chewables.

**ADMINISTRATION:** Remove only one chewable at a time from the foil-backed blister card. Return the card with the remaining chewables to its box to protect the product from light. Because most dogs find HEARTGARD Plus palatable, the product can be offered to the dog by hand. Alternatively, it may be added intact to a small amount of dog food. The chewable should be administered in a manner that encourages the dog to chew, rather than to swallow without chewing. Chewables may be broken into pieces and fed to dogs that normally swallow treats whole.

Care should be taken that the dog consumes the complete dose, and treated animals should be observed for a few minutes after administration to ensure that part of the dose is not lost or rejected. If it is suspected that any of the dose has been lost, redosing is recommended.

HEARTGARD Plus should be given at monthly intervals during the period of the year when mosquitoes (vectors), potentially carrying infective heartworm larvae, are active. The initial dose must be given within a month (30 days) after the dog's first exposure to mosquitoes. The final dose must be given within a month (30 days) after the dog's last exposure to mosquitoes.

When replacing another heartworm preventive product in a heartworm disease preventive program, the first dose of HEARTGARD Plus must be given within a month (30 days) of the last dose of the former medication.

If the interval between doses exceeds a month (30 days), the efficacy of ivermectin can be reduced. Therefore, for optimal performance, the chewable must be given once a month on or about the same day of the month. If treatment is delayed, whether by a few days or many, immediate treatment with HEARTGARD Plus and resumption of the recommended dosing regimen will minimize the opportunity for the development of adult heartworms.

Monthly treatment with HEARTGARD Plus also provides effective treatment and control of ascarids (*T. canis*, *T. leonina*) and hookworms (*A. caninum*, *U. stenocephala*, *A. braziliense*). Clients should be advised of measures to be taken to prevent reinfection with intestinal parasites.

**EFFICACY:** HEARTGARD Plus Chewables, given orally using the recommended dose and regimen, are effective against the tissue larval stage of *D. immitis* for a month (30 days) after infection and, as a result, prevent the development of the adult stage. HEARTGARD Plus Chewables are also effective against canine ascarids (*T. canis*, *T. leonina*) and hookworms (*A. caninum*, *U. stenocephala*, *A. braziliense*).

**ACCEPTABILITY:** In acceptability and field trials, HEARTGARD Plus was shown to be an acceptable oral dosage form that was consumed at first offering by the majority of dogs.

**PRECAUTIONS:** All dogs should be tested for existing heartworm infection before starting treatment with HEARTGARD Plus which is not effective against adult *D. immitis*. Infected dogs must be treated to remove adult heartworms and microfilariae before initiating a program with HEARTGARD Plus.

While some microfilariae may be killed by the ivermectin in HEARTGARD Plus at the recommended dose level, HEARTGARD Plus is not effective for microfilariae clearance. A mild hypersensitivity-type reaction, presumably due to dead or dying microfilariae and particularly involving a transient diarrhea, has been observed in clinical trials with ivermectin alone after treatment of some dogs that have circulating microfilariae.

**Keep this and all drugs out of the reach of children.**

In case of ingestion by humans, clients should be advised to contact a physician immediately. Physicians may contact a Poison Control Center for advice concerning cases of ingestion by humans.

Store between 68°F - 77°F (20°C - 25°C). Excursions between 59°F - 86°F (15°C - 30°C) are permitted. Protect product from light.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS:** In clinical field trials with HEARTGARD Plus, vomiting or diarrhea within 24 hours of dosing was rarely observed (1.1% of administered doses). The following adverse reactions have been reported following the use of HEARTGARD: Depression/lethargy, vomiting, anorexia, diarrhea, mydriasis, ataxia, staggering, convulsions and hypersalivation.

**SAFETY:** HEARTGARD Plus has been shown to be bioequivalent to HEARTGARD, with respect to the bioavailability of ivermectin. The dose regimens of HEARTGARD Plus and HEARTGARD are the same with regard to ivermectin (6 mcg/kg). Studies with ivermectin indicate that certain dogs of the Collie breed are more sensitive to the effects of ivermectin administered at elevated dose levels (more than 16 times the target use level) than dogs of other breeds. At elevated doses, sensitive dogs showed adverse reactions which included mydriasis, depression, ataxia, tremors, drooling, paresis, recumbency, excitability, stupor, coma and death. HEARTGARD demonstrated no signs of toxicity at 10 times the recommended dose (60 mcg/kg) in sensitive Collies. Results of these trials and bioequivalency studies, support the safety of HEARTGARD products in dogs, including Collies, when used as recommended.

HEARTGARD Plus has shown a wide margin of safety at the recommended dose level in dogs, including pregnant or breeding bitches, stud dogs and puppies aged 6 or more weeks. In clinical trials, many commonly used flea collars, dips, shampoos, anthelmintics, antibiotics, vaccines and steroid preparations have been administered with HEARTGARD Plus in a heartworm disease prevention program.

In one trial, where some pups had parvovirus, there was a marginal reduction in efficacy against intestinal nematodes, possibly due to a change in intestinal transit time.

**HOW SUPPLIED:** HEARTGARD Plus is available in three dosage strengths (See DOSAGE section) for dogs of different weights. Each strength comes in convenient cartons of 6 and 12 chewables.

For customer service, please contact Merial at 1-888-637-4251.

1 Of dogs showing a preference in two studies, all dogs preferred HEARTGARD Plus Chewables to TRIFEXIS® (spinosad + milbemycin oxime) beef-flavored chewable tablets; Executive Summary VS-USA-37807 and VS-USA-37808.

2 Of dogs showing a preference in two studies conducted, all dogs preferred HEARTGARD Plus Chewables to SENTINAL® (milbemycin oxime-lufenuron) chewable tablets; Executive Summary VS-USA-37809 and VS-USA-37810.

3 Of dogs showing a preference in two studies conducted, all dogs preferred HEARTGARD Plus Chewables to IVERHART PLUS® (ivermectin/pyrantel) beef-flavored tablets; Executive Summary VS-USA-37811 and VS-USA-37812.

4 Of dogs showing a preference in two studies conducted, all dogs preferred HEARTGARD Plus Chewables to IVERHART MAX® (ivermectin/pyrantel/praziquantel) beef-flavored tablets; Executive Summary VS-USA-37813 and VS-USA-37814.

5 Of dogs showing a preference in one study conducted, all dogs preferred HEARTGARD Plus Chewables to SENTINEL® SPECTRUM (milbemycin oxime/praziquantel/lufenuron) beef-flavored tablet; Executive Summary VS-USA-37801.

6 Opinion Research Corporation, Heartworm Prevention Medication Study, 2012. Data on file at Merial.

7 Data on file at Merial.

