Heartworm disease in cats is difficult to diagnose. Because of the challenges associated with the various forms of the disease, including Heartworm Associated Respiratory Disease (HARD), many leading researchers and professional organizations have come to the same conclusion: year-round heartworm prevention is important for all cats, even those identified as “indoor only.”

For example, in a session at the 2013 American Heartworm Society Symposium, “Heartworm-Associated Respiratory Disease (HARD) in Cats: What We Know and Don’t Know,” a team from Auburn University noted that “Feline heartworm disease is unique compared to its canine counterpart. HARD is difficult to diagnose. Because of the challenges associated with the various forms of the disease, including Heartworm Associated Respiratory Disease (HARD), many leading researchers and professional organizations have come to the same conclusion: year-round heartworm prevention is important for all cats, even those identified as “indoor only.”

Leading veterinary medical associations, including CAPC, the American Heartworm Society, the American Animal Hospital Association in conjunction with the American Veterinary Medical Association and the American Association of Feline Practitioners, all recommend year-round heartworm preventative for cats. So, why aren’t more cats on monthly medication?

One challenge is that many owners don’t believe that their cats are at risk. “I hear it all the time from clients,” said Angela Albers, DVM, of Stow-Kent Animal Hospital in Kent, Ohio. “They tell me that their cat doesn’t need heartworm preventive because their cat doesn’t go outside.” A study published in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association found that 25% of the cats diagnosed with heartworm disease were identified by their owners as indoor-only cats.

Dr. Albers is encouraged that, while not all her clients are compliant yet, she sees attitudes toward feline pets changing. “More people are taking cats seriously as pets,” she observed, and she urges her veterinary colleagues to recommend heartworm preventives for their feline patients. “As veterinarians, we need to give people a choice. I tell my colleagues: don’t automatically think that your client won’t want heartworm preventive for their cats. By not offering the option, you are taking away the client’s right to be a good owner. If I were that cat owner, I’d be upset if my cat died of an easily preventable disease.”

Dr. Albers recommends REVOLUTION® (selamectin) for her feline patients, and uses it on her own cat. She observed that no matter what a pill tastes like, there will always be cats that won’t take it. Dr. Albers relies on REVOLUTION because it is easy to administer and she is comfortable with the safety profile, which notes that studies have been done and even if a cat ingests some REVOLUTION, there are no adverse effects.
Revolution® (selamectin)
Topical Parasiticide For Dogs and Cats

CAUTION:
US Federal law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.

DESCRIPTION:
Revolution® (selamectin) Topical Parasiticide is available as a colorless to yellow, ready to use solution in single dose tubes for topical (dermal) treatment of dogs six weeks of age and older and cats eight weeks of age and older. The content of each tube is formulated to provide a minimum of 2.7 mg/L (6 mg/kg) of body weight of selamectin. The chemical formula of selamectin is C22H35O4N2S2, 25-cyclohexyl-4-0-de(2,6-dideoxy-3-0-methyl-1-L-arabinopyranosyl)-5-demethyl-25-de-(1-methylpyrrol)-22,3-dihydro-5-hydroxyminoselamectin A5, as indicated for use in dogs six weeks of age and older and for the following parasites and indications:

Dogs:
- Revolution kills adult fleas and prevents flea eggs from hatching for one month and is indicated for the prevention and control of flea infestations (Dermanyssus gallinae), prevention of heartworm disease caused by Dirofilaria immitis, and the treatment and control of ear mite (Otodectes cynocestus/infections). Revolution also is indicated for the treatment and control of roundworm (Toxocara cati) and intestinal hookworm (Ancylostoma tubaeforme) infections in cats.

CAUTION:
- Revolution should be used with caution or consulted a health care professional. Revolution contains isopropyl alcohol and the preservative butylated hydroxytolene (BHT). Wash hands after use and wash off any

STORAGE CONDITIONS:
- Revolution should be stored at or below 25°C (77°F) and protected from light. Do not use if the bottle is damaged or if the liquid has discolored, has a peculiar odor, or has particles in it.

INDICATIONS:
- Revolution is recommended for use in dogs six weeks of age and older and cats eight weeks of age and older for the following parasites and indications:

ADMINISTRATION:
- Recommended for use in dogs 6 weeks of age and older and in cats 8 weeks of age and older. Treatment should be timed to coincide with the variable emergence of fleas from the environment (see instructions for use).

For the treatment of ear mite (O. cynocestus) infestations and cats, Revolution should be administered once as a single topical dose. A second monthly dose may be required in some cats. Monthly use of Revolution is not likely to control or prevent any subsequent ear mite infestations. In the clinical field trials ears were not scored, and many animals still had debris in their ears after the second dose. Cleansing of the infected ears is recommended to remove the debris.

Ear Mite Treatment in Dogs and Cats

For the treatment of sarcoptic mange (S. scabiei) in dogs, Revolution should be administered once as a single topical dose. A second monthly dose may be required in some dogs. Monthly use of Revolution will control any subsequent sarcoptic mange mite infestations. Because of the difficulty in finding sarcoptic mange mites on skin scrapings, effectiveness assessments also were based on resolution of clinical signs. Revolution of the pruritus associated with the mite infestations was observed in approximately 50% of the dogs 30 days after the first treatment and in approximately 90% of the dogs 30 days after the second monthly treatment.

Tick Control in Dogs

For the control of tick (Dermacentor variabilis) infestations in dogs, Revolution should be administered on a monthly basis. In heavy tick infestations, complete efficacy may not be achieved after the first dose. In these cases, one additional dose may be administered two weeks after the previous dose, with monthly dosing continued thereafter.

Nematode Treatment in Cats

For the treatment and control of intestinal hookworm (A. tubaeforme) and roundworm (T. cati) infections, Revolution should be applied once as a single topical dose.

SAFETY:
- Revolution has been tested safe in over 100 different pure and mixed breeds of healthy dogs and over 100 pure and mixed breeds of healthy cats, including pregnant and lactating females, breeding males and females, puppies six weeks of age and older, kittens eight weeks of age and older, and avermectin-sensitive cats. A kitten, estimated to be 5–6 weeks old (0.3 kg), died 8 hours after receiving a single treatment of Revolution at the recommended dosage. The kitten displayed clinical signs which included muscle spasms, salivation, tachycardia, and diarrhea. The kitten was a stray with an unknown history and was moulting and underweight (see WARNING).

DOGS: In safety studies, Revolution was administered at 1, 3, 5, and 10 times the recommended dose to six-week-old puppies, and no adverse reactions were observed. The safety of Revolution administered orally also was tested in case of accidental oral ingestion. Oral administration of Revolution at the recommended topical dose in 5- to 8-month-old beagles did not cause any adverse reactions. In a pre-clinical study selamectin was dosed orally to ivermectin-sensitive cats. Oral administration of 2.5, 10, and 15 mg/kg in this dosage escalating study did not cause any adverse reactions; however, eight hours after receiving 5 mg/kg orally the avermectin-sensitive colives began ataxic for several hours, but did not show any other adverse reactions after receiving subsequent doses of 10 and 15 mg/kg orally. In a topically safety conducted study treated with ivermectin-sensitive colives at 1, 3 and 5 times the recommended dose of Revolution, salvos were observed in all treatment groups, including the vehicle control. Revolution also was administered at 3 times the recommended dose to heartworm infected dogs, and no adverse reactions were observed.

CATS: In safety studies, Revolution was administered at 1, 3, 5, and 10 times the recommended dose to six-week-old kittens. No adverse reactions were observed. The safety of Revolution administered orally also was tested in case of accidental oral ingestion. Oral administration of the recommended topical dose of Revolution to cats caused salivation and intermittent vomiting. Revolution also was applied at 4 times the recommended dose to patent heartworm-infected cats, and no adverse reactions were observed.

In well-controlled clinical studies, Revolution was used safely in animals receiving other frequently used veterinary products such as vaccines, anthelmintics, antiparasitics, antibiotics, steroids, collars, shampoos and dips.

STORAGE CONDITIONS:
- Store below 20°C (68°F).

HOW SUPPLIED: Available in eight different dose strengths for dogs and cats of different weights (see DOSAGE). Revolution for puppies and kittens is available in cartons containing 3 single dose tubes. Revolution for cats and dogs is available in cartons containing 3 or 6 single dose tubes.

NADA 141-152, Approved by FDA

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