Windmill Veterinary Centre

Cat Wormer & Flea Treatment
**Which wormer and flea treatment**

There are several new products on the market that can both worm and de-flea your cat in one go...but which one is best for your cat and for you?

Cat worms come in two main sorts:
Roundworms (Acsarids) are potentially transmissible to humans and are generally spread directly from cat to cat, via eggs passed in faeces. Recommendations from the Department of Health and other agencies, now advocate MONTHLY worming of all cats, to reduce the possibility of humans contracting these worms.

Tapeworms require a second, different animal to live in, as part of their lifecycle and the two varieties of tapeworm that affect cats use two totally different second hosts. One lives in sheep, the other in the flea. Cats, which live near sheep, may pick up the first type, but any cat that gets a flea, can develop the second type!

Fleas are fleas, but different species do exist, and cats can come home, covered in rabbit or hedgehog fleas as well as cat and dog fleas!

The different lifestyles of cats mean that worming and de-fleaing protocols have to be tailored for the individual cat, and to make best use of the best products available to us.

**Products available.**

Due to advertising rules, we cannot give product names in this leaflet, but the main types of treatment are:
Tablet wormers - given as a whole dose. These will usually cover round worms and most types of tapeworm. One form also comes as a paste, a liquid and palatable 'biscuits'.

Spot-on liquids, applied to the back of the neck. These now come in two formulations.

To treat fleas (and ticks) only

Broad-spectrum, controlling fleas, roundworms, ear mites, heartworm and ticks.

Lifestyle

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| Family cats that hunt, and are reluctant to take tablets!                | Spot-on broad-spectrum product, used monthly  
|                                                                           | Plus Spot-on tape-wormer, used monthly.                                                        |
| Family cats that hunt, and can be given tablets easily.                  | Spot-on broad spectrum product, used monthly  
|                                                                           | Plus tablet wormer                                                                             |
| Family cats that spend most of their time indoors and rarely hunt.       | Broad-spectrum product, used monthly  
|                                                                           | Plus spot-on or tablet tape-wormer, used every 3 months.                                     |
| House cats that never go outside and never hunt, in households where no other pet (dog or cat) is going out | Tablet or spot-on wormer, used quarterly.  
|                                                                           | ▶ If a new cat arrives in the house, both the new and the original cats should be treated for fleas and worms, monthly for 2 or 3 months.  
|                                                                           | ▶ If there are other animals in the house which do go out, treat the cat with a broad-spectrum product, used monthly, as the other pets can bring home fleas and re-infect the house cat with roundworms. |
| Outdoor (and feral) cats                                                 | Broad-spectrum product, used monthly - or whenever you can catch them!  
|                                                                           | Spot-on tape-wormer, used monthly.                                                            |
| Kittens                                                                  | Spot-on broad-spectrum product, used monthly.                                                 |
Please ask at Dispensary for the best products for your cat. Our staff are happy to advise you on the best program for you and your pets.