

**If you've one of these and one of these you need to know about this :
Toxocara / Hoechst Animal Health.**

Contributors

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Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

When to worm your pet.

Generally, you should worm your cat or dog at least four times a year.

(New-born puppies and kittens, as well as pregnant bitches, need worming more frequently: consult your vet.)

So why not set yourself four 'worm-out' days each year – and mark your diary or calendar now to help you remember.

If every responsible pet owner did this, Toxocariasis would be less of a problem.

Here are our four suggested dates:

Autumn	31 October
Winter	31 January
Spring	30 April
Summer	31 July



You can give Panacur Wormer in food. It comes in odourless, tasteless granules. You should not fast your dog or cat before treatment.

Panacur contains active ingredient: fenbendazole.

Hoechst Animal Health, A Division of Hoechst UK
Limited, Walton Manor, Walton, Milton Keynes,
Bucks, MK7 7AJ.

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Toxocar

Toxocara: a threat to your family's health?

You've probably heard of *Toxocara*. But do you know exactly what it is or what danger it presents – or most important, how to prevent it?

This leaflet is designed to help you appreciate the growing *Toxocara* problem.

For your family's sake, read it carefully. Even if you don't have a pet, we strongly recommend you take some of the steps mentioned later on.

What is *Toxocara*?

Toxocara is a roundworm commonly found in dogs and cats. Almost all puppies are born with *Toxocara*; they and kittens can catch *Toxocara* through their mother's milk.

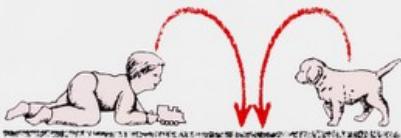
Toxocara canis, the dog roundworm, can endanger human health. *Toxocara cati*, the cat worm, has been associated with rare cases of Toxocariasis.

How is *Toxocara* spread?

Microscopic *Toxocara* eggs are present in the faeces of infected animals. These eggs can remain in the soil for 2 years or more after the faeces have disappeared, and many can be infective.

How do you pick up *Toxocara*?

Quite simply, by accidentally swallowing the infective/developed *Toxocara* eggs from the ground.



How your child can pick up *Toxocara*.

This is why crawling babies and toddlers are most at risk: they tend to put dirty fingers and toys in their mouths. And medical records show that around

100 new cases of Toxocariasis (*Toxocara* infection) are diagnosed each year.

What can happen?

Once swallowed, *Toxocara* eggs release larvae into the intestine.

These larvae travel through the body until they die, which may take several years.

The symptoms can be unpleasant and difficult to treat. They can include stomach upset and pain, headache, sore throat, asthma and listlessness.

However, in some cases, larvae reach the eyes where they can cause sight problems. Luckily cases of permanent blindness are rare.

"What can I do?"

The answer is: plenty!

The first thing is to use a reliable, proven wormer. This will also help keep your pet in good condition.

The second is to practise preventive techniques, so your children and *Toxocara* stay well apart.

1. Ensure children always wash hands before they eat.
2. Encourage them to avoid sucking dirty fingers.
3. Don't allow children to play on the ground and eat using their fingers at the same time.
4. Be sure floors where children play are clean.
5. Don't put small children on the entrance floors of public buildings.
6. Don't leave children unsupervised with a pet, unless the animal is over 6 months old.
7. Always clear up immediately after pets foul the floor.
8. Train cats to use a litter tray, or encourage them to defecate outside.
9. Fence round play areas to exclude dogs.
10. Cover sandpits to keep out cats.
11. Be careful your dog doesn't foul public play areas.
12. If it does, clear up using tissues, a nappy sack or scoop, and deposit in a suitable bin.

How to find the right wormer.

Your vet can explain how to worm your pet, and recommend a suitable worming treatment.

Chances are it will be a product like Panacur from Hoechst Animal Health. Panacur is effective against roundworms, including *Toxocara*, and certain dog and cat tapeworms.

And there's a free gift with Panacur – an attractive colour poster featuring the picture below.



To obtain your poster, simply send a Panacur pack top to: **Hoechst Pet Care, FREEPOST, PO Box 216, AYLESBURY, Bucks, HP20 1BR.** One pack top required per poster.