

CARING FOR YOUR DOG AFTER TREATMENT

HOW LONG WILL MY DOG BE IN THE HOSPITAL?

In most cases, dogs can come home from the hospital following the procedure. However, your dog's condition and your veterinarian's judgment will best determine when your dog may go home.

HOW SOON CAN MY DOG RESUME NORMAL ACTIVITIES?

Your dog will need to rest to prevent complications resulting from stress on the heart and lungs before returning to normal activities. Remember to follow your vet's recommendations and suggested weeks of rest. This could mean:

Most Dogs ▶ Staying indoors

Very active dogs ▶ Remaining closely confined

Please check with your veterinarian before you allow your dog to resume normal exercise.



Heartworm disease and treatment are serious matters. Your dog will need some extra tender loving care and rest after treatment.

WORKING WITH YOUR VETERINARIAN

Are there any side effects from the treatment?

As the worms within the heart and circulatory system are killed, some dogs may experience:

- ▶ A temporary lack of appetite
- ▶ Drooling
- ▶ An upset stomach
- ▶ Panting

Your dog may also show other signs from the presence of dead worms, including:

- ▶ Fever
- ▶ Depression
- ▶ Respiratory difficulty



If these or other signs of discomfort develop, please call your veterinarian, who will see that your dog gets appropriate care.

How soon should I bring my dog back to the veterinarian?

Your veterinarian will schedule a checkup to ensure your dog's recovery is progressing. **Then, nine months after treatment, your veterinarian will do a follow-up test** to make sure your dog is heartworm negative.



Heartworms are easily transmitted by mosquitoes.

Having them once DOES NOT make your dog immune. It's important to continue to bring your dog in for regular checkups, and to ensure your dog is on a year-round heartworm preventive, such as HEARTGARD® Plus (ivermectin/pyrantel). Your veterinarian will recommend the best heartworm preventive medication for your dog's lifestyle. Talk to your veterinarian about any questions you may have about your dog's heartworm treatment.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION: Following the use of HEARTGARD® Plus (ivermectin/pyrantel) digestive and neurologic side effects have been reported. All dogs should be tested for heartworm infection before starting a preventive program. For more information, see enclosed full prescribing information, speak to your vet, or visit HEARTGARD.com.



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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

YOUR DOG'S TREATMENT FOR HEARTWORM DISEASE



Your dog has been diagnosed with a serious disease caused by *Dirofilaria immitis*, worm-like parasites better known as heartworms. In this brochure, you'll learn what you and your veterinarian can do to treat your dog and help protect against reinfection.



