The Companion Animal Parasite Council (CAPC) has developed and maintains current and accurate maps on a variety of parasitic diseases in the United States and Canada, based on data provided by IDEXX Laboratories and ANTECH Diagnostics. These maps, found at capcvet.org, are available for your veterinary care team to use in your client education efforts—are you using them?

On this page, you can see the 2017 forecast for heartworm disease, and on the next page you’ll see current data on the prevalence of heartworm disease, all the way down to the county level! Keep reading to see how you can use these maps to their fullest and help reduce the risk of heartworm disease in your patients.

**FORECASTED PREVALENCE 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Forecast 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4%-100%</td>
<td>0.5%-1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2%-4%</td>
<td>0.25%-0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5%-2%</td>
<td>0%-0.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1%-1.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

With an educational grant provided by ProHeart 6 (moxidectin)
Go to capcvet.org to find out what the parasite risks are in your area, and select the parasite you want to track (in this case, heartworm). First you’ll see the total number of heartworm-positive test results veterinarians have reported in the entire United States and the total number of tests conducted. Then click on your state. You’ll see the totals there as well. Then click on your county—you’ll see how many dogs and cats have tested positive in your immediate region. Here we’re showing the data for Rapides County, Louisiana, part of the heartworm hot zone that is the Mississippi Delta. If you sign up for updates at capcvet.org, you’ll get new numbers on a regular basis sent right to your email. Nine out of 10 veterinary clients say they want this info!

**HEARTWORM CANINE DATA**

**Tested Positive**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>US &gt; LOUISIANA &gt; RAPIDES PARISH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tested Positive</td>
<td><strong>11.84%</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive Cases</td>
<td><strong>436</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Tested</td>
<td><strong>3,683</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Infection Risk in 2017**

- Cases of both canine and feline heartworm disease have been reported in all 50 states.
- CAPC recommends that all dogs be tested annually for both heartworm antigens and microfilariae, even if they’re on year-round preventives.

*Source: capcvet.org*
Use an old-school whiteboard to inform pet owners of local risks

Data on heartworms can provide a public service to your veterinary clients—and help protect your patients.

A simple dry erase whiteboard can change the conversation about parasite prevention from selling product to protecting patients. A 2015 study by the Companion Animal Parasite Council (CAPC) has shown that 90% of pet owners want their veterinarian to provide them with information on parasites. Posting local, timely parasite prevalence numbers in your waiting area can help stimulate conversation with your clients and provide a public service.

Step 1: Buy a whiteboard at an office supply store.

Step 2: Visit capcvet.org and click on “Parasite Prevalence Maps.”

Step 3: Identify the disease you want to highlight (such as heartworm infection) and find the prevalence data for your state and county.

Step 4: Write the number of cases in your county on the whiteboard and set it out or hang it near where clients check in and out.

Step 5: Educate clients about heartworm disease when they ask about the numbers on the board.

Step 6: Change the statistics you highlight on the board according to new data and changing seasonal risks (sign up to receive updates at capcvet.org).

Want to hear more? Check out the video at dym360.com/CAPCwhiteboard.

DISEASE TODAY?

Consider keeping a heartworm-infected heart in a formalin jar to show to owners. Plastic models and parasite posters visualizing the disease also work.

TIP

Clients who have a hard time remembering to give a monthly preventive might do better with an injection every six months. Try telling them they only have to think about it twice a year instead of 12 times a year.
Dogs are all ♥
That’s why you protect theirs.

Only ProHeart 6 provides 6 months of heartworm disease protection in 1 injection.

Continuous protection gives your clients peace of mind.
In-clinic administration so you’re confident patients are protected.
Twice-yearly visits keep your patients healthy.

Learn more at proheart6protects.com

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION: PROHEART 6 should be used in healthy dogs. Do not administer to sick, debilitated, underweight dogs or dogs that have a history of weight loss. Prior to administration, PROHEART 6 certified veterinarians should continue to assess patient health through a medical history, physical examination and if deemed appropriate, diagnostic testing. Continue to use caution when administering PROHEART 6 concurrently with vaccinations. Adverse events, including anaphylaxis, have been reported following the concomitant use of PROHEART 6 and vaccines. In some cases, anaphylactic reactions have resulted in death. Use with caution in dogs with pre-existing or uncontrolled allergic disease (food allergy, atopy or flea allergy dermatitis). Dogs receiving PROHEART 6 should be tested for existing heartworms as per the product label. In people, avoid PROHEART 6 contact with eyes. If contact with the eyes occurs, rinse thoroughly with water for 15 minutes and seek medical attention immediately. PROHEART 6 is available only to veterinarians through a restricted distribution program. Only certified veterinarians and staff can administer it. See Brief Summary of full Prescribing Information on the prior page.