

Facebook Tiles



Roundworm Zoonosis FB tile series - V6

ACVM No.'s A011852, A011184.

Roundworms are NZ's most common internal parasite in pets and pose a health risk to humans. For example, there's emerging evidence that infection with roundworms has mild effects on the development of speech, reading achievement and distractibility in kindergarten children. We'll post more about this interesting worm soon and how you can avoid getting infected.

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A little bit of dirt never hurt anyone – well maybe that's not entirely true! Cats and dogs infected with roundworms shed eggs in their poo into the environment. These eggs can survive in soil and sand for years! People (often children) get infected if they accidentally ingest eggs in contaminated soil (gardens, sandpits and parks), or on unwashed hands, objects or raw vegetables.



The common roundworm of dogs and cats can cause a wide range of symptoms in humans if we get infected. Severe consequences, such as blindness, are fortunately rare. However, mild symptoms such as abdominal pain, wheezing and coughing or a headache and tiredness might be common. People can be completely unaware that they have been infected with roundworm.



Common as the cold – roundworm eggs are found in soil anywhere where dogs and cats go, such as backyards, sandpits, parks, playgrounds, beaches and other public places. It is important that children always wash their hands after playing outside or helping with the gardening. And always cover sandpits to prevent cats from pooing in them!



To reduce the risk of zoonotic disease from roundworm eggs, the following can help:

- Pick up cat and dog faeces
- Good handwashing
- Wash vegetables
- Cover sandpits
- **Treat cats and dogs monthly with NEXGARD SPECTRA to eliminate egg shedding into the environment**

**NexGard
SPECTRA**