



PARK ISSA VETS CLIENT FACT SHEET

FLEAS AND HOW TO CONTROL THEM!!

Under ideal humidity and temperature conditions, found in many homes, ten female fleas could produce over a quarter of a million offspring in just 30 days.

A few facts about fleas:

1. Fleas can be picked up by your pet from anywhere other pets frequent.
2. Fleas live on your pet and lay eggs, which fall to the ground and contaminate your house.
3. Unhatched egg cocoons can survive in your home if left undisturbed for over 1 year.
4. With the advent of central heating and double glazing, fleas have become an all year round problem not just a summer one.

There are many different flea preparations available and we are happy to discuss which type would best suit your circumstances. However, as with all medications, we recommend that you read and follow the manufacturers instructions carefully and ask for advice about anything you don't understand.

SPRAYS

FRONTLINE is a non-aerosol spray. It treats ticks and fleas in dogs and cats over 2 days old. In the dog, it is effective against fleas for 3 months and ticks for 4 weeks and in the cat it is effective for 2 months against fleas.

Frontline is now also licensed for use against Cheyletiella (*walking dandruff*), lice and sarcoptic mange (*scabies*). It is also useful in the control of ear mites.

As with all medications the instructions need to be followed carefully and the product is HIGHLY INFLAMMABLE until dry.



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ORAL PRODUCTS

PROGRAM(oral dogs only) is a concept in flea control that makes the flea sterile so that adults cant breed and the eggs wont hatch. It acts only against fleas and so is safe to use in the young, old and pregnant animals.

Program is given as a tablet once a month and comes in a 6 month treatment pack. On initial use a standard anti-flea treatment is required to kill the adult fleas. It is important to use *Program* all year round.

CAPSTAR is a rapid-acting once monthly tablet that kills adult fleas, that can be used in conjunction with *Program*, in both cats and dogs. It is the most recent anti-flea product on the market. Capstar is licenced to use from 4 weeks of age.

INJECTABLE(cats only)

PROGRAM is now available in injection form. A single injection lasts 6 months. Other than this it is the same product as that used in dogs.

In order to help owners remember their 6 month boosters we are using a postal reminder system, this only applies to this particular product.

SPOT-ON TREATMENTS

These are now are most popular anti-flea products mainly because of their ease of application.

PRAC-TIC is a small premeasured vial of liquid which when applied to the coat of your pet kills fleas rapidly after contact. The product is absorbed into the skin and spreads all over the body. It can be used in puppies from 8 weeks of age.

Treatment needs repeating every 4 weeks.

FRONTLINE COMBO is only now stocked for use in **cats** as *prac-tic* is a very similar but more modern product but only for use in dogs. It can be used in kittens over 1kg bodyweight and needs repeating every 4 weeks.

ADVOCATE is also a premeasured dose of liquid applied to the coat. It works quickly and effectively killing the fleas within 24 hours of application. It is licensed for use in puppies and kittens from 7 weeks of age. It is also licensed against ear mites, mange mites and roundworms.

Again treatment needs repeating at monthly intervals.



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ADVANTIA is applied like the 2 previous products. It is licensed for use in puppies from 7 weeks of age. It is the best product on the market for tick control and is also effective against fleas and sandflies and mosquitos, making it useful for dogs travelling abroad.

Again treatment needs repeating at 4 week intervals.

The following products listed below are the more traditional methods of flea control which we feel are generally not as effective as those listed above.

FLEA COLLARS (dogs only)

We no longer stock traditional flea collars but do have SCALIBOR collars. These are licensed for use against ticks and sandflies, effective for 5-6mths. Their primary use is for dogs travelling abroad but they will have some effect on fleas.

FLEA SHAMPOO

We no longer stock flea shampoo as the length of action is not long enough.

FLEA POWDER

Flea powder is no longer stocked as the effectiveness is poor.

Depending on the scale of a flea problem you may need to use an insecticidal spray in your house. It is worth asking for advice before purchasing one.

HOUSE INSECTICIDE

INDOREX is an aerosol spray for use on the carpet and furnishings but **NOT** the animal. Fleas can lay eggs in the furnishings which can lay dormant for over a year until they hatch out and start breeding again. It has a short acting insecticide to kill adult fleas and a long acting insect growth regulator. This breaks the life cycle, giving 12 months protection in the house. One can does an average sized house twice. It is also licensed against housedust mites, useful for allergic dogs.

***REMEMBER FLEAS TAKE TIME AND MONEY TO ELIMINATE--
PREVENTION IS EASIER THAN CURE!!***