



Toronto Humane Society's Spay & Neuter and Vaccination Services Heartworm Testing & Prevention Policy

Thank you for your interest in the Toronto Humane Society's Spay & Neuter and Vaccination Services.

Heartworm Testing:

The Toronto Humane Society provides **heartworm testing for dogs from April 15th – Labour Day**. This service is completed by appointment only. Clients must **book an appointment through our vaccination services and pay a \$25.00 exam fee in addition to \$20.00 for the heartworm test**. We recommend heartworm preventative medication to be given throughout the entire heartworm season which lasts from June 1st until November 1st. All doses are recommended to be given on the first of the month (makes it easy to remember), or exactly 1 month from the previous application. Revolution is a very safe heartworm preventative topical solution which is applied to your animal's skin on the base of his/her neck between the shoulder blades. Revolution is the only heartworm preventative THS carries as it is multifunctional in that it also protects against all stages of fleas, some ticks, ear mites, mange, and some intestinal worms.

Revolution can be purchased in individual vials (1 months' worth of protection ranges from \$15 - \$20) or boxes of 6 (range from \$86 - \$125). After your initial appointment has been completed, medication can be picked up at a later date if necessary. Follow up appointments are not necessary if you are only interested in purchasing additional doses for prevention, however please ensure your dog fits our eligibility criteria below. Please ensure you are coming during the operating hours of the Toronto Humane Society Vaccination Services. For dates and hours of operation please check the Calendar of Events on our website <http://www.torontohumanesociety.com/news-and-events/events> or call us at **416-392-2273 ext. 2**.



Eligibility to Purchase Heartworm Preventatives Without an Examination:

All healthy dogs **must have completed a heartworm test, with proof of a negative test result, within the last 6 months** (*either completed at Toronto Humane Society, or at another veterinary clinic*) in order to purchase preventative medication without an examination. All dogs **must also have completed a physical examination with the Toronto Humane Society Spay Neuter and Vaccination Services within the last year**. All animals are still recommended to arrive in order to obtain a current weight, unless medical history from a veterinarian (within the last month) showing a current weight can be provided at the time of purchase.

Eligibility to Purchase Heartworm Preventatives Without a Valid Test:

Please note: For all animals who have not utilized our services within the last year, an examination to establish a veterinary-client-patient relationship is required in order for THS to dispense preventative medication.

Puppies born after September 15th of the previous year or cats:

Puppies born after September 15th (of the previous year) will not require heartworm testing in order to be dispensed Revolution. They will be required to have their test completed next year in the spring as they were not exposed to the previous mosquito season. **Cats do not require heartworm testing** as heartworm disease manifests differently in cats in comparison to dogs. The preventative dosage is determined by your dog's/cat's weight. As puppies/kittens grow rapidly in their first year, we will not prescribe full boxes of Revolution (6 months' worth of protection). Clients must purchase individual vials of Revolution and bring your puppy/kitten in for a free weigh-in at the Toronto Humane Society Vaccination Clinic in order to accommodate their changing weight. For all other animals we still recommend bringing in for a weight check if medical history cannot be provided to ensure we are providing the correct dose for your animal.