Parasite protection: client questionnaire

Here is a basic set of questions to ask clients to help assess the risk of parasite infection and help with product selection. The rationale for the questions follows in brackets. To keep the form simple for clients, you might prefer to use the second page which contains the questions only.

Questions to assess the risk of parasite infection and determine frequency of roundworm therapy

Question I: Is your pet in regular contact with:

- young children (aged 2-4 years)?
- a person who has a condition that suppresses the immune system?
- a person who is on medication that suppresses the immune system?



(These people might be at higher risk of contracting roundworm infection and so monthly rather than 3-monthly roundworm treatment of the cat or dog is recommended).

Question 2: How often have you see a tick on your pet?

(A history of tick attachment strongly suggests that the pet's lifestyle exposes it to ticks and may need a tick killing or repelling product)

Question 3: Does your pet eat raw food or hunt?

(Dogs that eat raw offal might be at an increased risk of infection with the tapeworm *Echinococcus*, for which regular tapeworm treatment is recommended. Dogs and cats that eat raw diets or hunt may also be at increased risk of roundworm infection and need monthly rather than 3-monthly roundworm therapy).

Question 4: Does your dog eat grass, slugs or snails?

(The dog may be at increased of infection with *Angiostrongylus vasorum* ('lungworm') and need preventive therapy)

Questions that help determine the most appropriate product type Question 5: Do you bath your dog regularly or does it swim?

(This might reduce the effectiveness of products applied to the body)

Question 6: Does your dog share a home with other pets?

(e.g. topical products containing permethrin are unsuitable if there is a cat in the home)



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Pet's name:	
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