

# **Downers Grove Animal Hospital & Bird Clinic, P.C.**

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## **Feline Heartworm Disease**

Cats get heartworms too! All cats should be protected from heartworm disease.

### **HOW DO CATS GET HEARTWORM DISEASE?**

Cats get heartworm disease in the same way that dogs do. Mosquitos transmit the disease by biting an already infected animal, and then pass the infection on to other animals they bite.

### **SIGNS OF HEARTWORM DISEASE ARE NOT USUALLY SEEN UNTIL VERY LATE IN THE DISEASE PROCESS:**

Coughing, breathing difficulties, vomiting, and weight loss may be observed, but often times the cat will suffer in silence with no signs of this serious illness.

### **THERE IS NO GOOD SOLUTION ONCE THE CAT IS INFECTED WITH HEARTWORMS:**

Aggressive treatment of the infection has a high chance of serious complications, including death. Without treatment, the risks of lung damage is high and death is not uncommon. We treat infected cats with long-term preventatives to decrease the number of worms and minimize symptoms.

### **PREVENTION IS AVAILABLE:**

The only good solution to this dangerous disease is to prevent it. We have preventatives that are very effective and easy to use. No cat should have to suffer with this easily preventable disease.