



Trichuris vulpis

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A single dose of febantel has good efficacy against adult whipworms, while a single dose of milbemycin oxime can remove >90% of adult worms in the GI tract.⁷

Fenbendazole

Dose: 50 mg/kg PO once a day for 3 consecutive days¹⁻⁴

A broad-spectrum benzimidazole anthelmintic safely used in multiple species, fenbendazole is labeled for dogs ≥ 6 weeks of age and in pregnant bitches. In the absence of ongoing monthly anthelmintic therapy (see **Milbemycin oxime**), retreatment is recommended 30 and 60 days after the first treatment because of the long prepatent period.³

Although there are no known contraindications, hypersensitivity reactions can occur secondary to antigen release by dead and dying parasites.¹ Diarrhea, vomiting, and salivation may occur infrequently in dogs and cats.¹

Febantel

Dose: 25 mg/kg PO one time^{1,3,4}
(combination formulation)

Febantel, a prodrug, is converted to fenbendazole and oxfendazole after oral administration. It is not available in a single-product formulation but rather in combination with pyrantel and praziquantel. A single dose of febantel has good efficacy against adult whipworms.⁵ This drug is contraindicated in pregnant animals.

Milbemycin oxime

Dose: 0.5 mg/kg PO once a month⁶

Milbemycin oxime is available in several combination and stand-alone formulations for monthly administration. A single dose removes >90% of adult worms present in the GI tract,⁷ with subsequent monthly doses removing worms that have developed from reexposure.

A heartworm test should be performed, with results below detectable limits before administration of milbemycin oxime.

Moxidectin

Dose: 2.5 mg/kg (topical) once a month⁸

Topical moxidectin (in combination with imidacloprid) is labeled for the treatment and control of *Trichuris vulpis* infection. Like milbemycin oxime, a single dose of moxidectin removes >90% of adult worms present in the GI tract⁷; however, in this formulation, levels of moxidectin remain in the system until administration of the next monthly dose, whereas other medications demonstrating efficacy against *T. vulpis* are metabolized and eliminated more rapidly.

A heartworm test should be performed, with results below detectable limits before administration of moxidectin.

GI = gastrointestinal



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SUGGESTED READING

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