



## **Felpreva®: new unique combination spot-on to help simplify feline parasite control**

Currently, cat owner compliance for parasiticide use is a challenge for veterinarians with data suggesting that on average, cats are only dewormed 2.2 times per year.<sup>1</sup> While multiple factors need to be considered when it comes to compliance, the negative impact that administering parasiticides has on the bond between owner and their cat cannot be underestimated.

Many veterinarians, keen to improve owner compliance, are recognising the importance of prescribing parasite treatments that are both easy to give and long-lasting and which minimise stressful owner/cat interactions.

### **Importance of the human-companion animal bond**

The attitudes of cat owners are changing, with more than half now seeing their pet as a family member.<sup>2</sup> Owners simply enjoy the companionship and unconditional affection their cat brings and are reluctant to have negative and potentially relationship-damaging interactions with their pet. Often, giving parasite treatments can do just that.

In a recent survey of European cat owners:<sup>2</sup>

- 44% have negative feelings about giving parasite protection to cats
- Over half felt their cat reacted negatively to parasiticide treatments and one in eight stopped treatment altogether

The fact that many parasiticides require frequent application to provide adequate protection, and often multiple products are needed for complete cover, particularly for tapeworms, exacerbates this compliance challenge.

“Having to apply parasite prevention every month can really affect the bond between cat and owner. Owners often tell me that their cat disappears for a day or so after having been treated. This is obviously really distressing and also puts the owner off keeping up with parasite prevention.”

*Dr Rosy Nye PGCert SAM BVetMed MRCVS, first opinion veterinarian*

A lapse in parasite protection can lead to its own challenges to the owner/cat bond too. Many owners are understandably distressed by seeing evidence of parasites, not to mention concern of zoonotic risk of some parasitic species.

Making prescription recommendations which are sympathetic to the special relationship between owner and cat by considering factors such as duration of action, spectrum of cover and administration route can help to aid compliance, helping protect both animal and human health.

## **Felpreva® – now available for long-lasting, broad-spectrum parasite protection for cats**

Felpreva® is an innovation in companion animal parasitology. Designed specifically for cats, it is the first long-lasting spot-on parasiticide that covers tapeworms, in addition to other endoparasites (roundworms, hookworm and lungworms), and ectoparasites (fleas, ticks and mites) in a single dose. It is licensed for treatment of cats with, or at risk from, mixed parasitic infestations/infections.

The lower frequency of application - only four times per year - results in fewer potentially negative interactions between cats and their owners compared to typical monthly treatments, while the broad-spectrum cover negates the need for additional tapeworm-specific products. The low volume solution also makes it more tolerable to many cats and may reduce stress of application.

This is thanks to Felpreva®'s unique formulation, combining three active ingredients: emodepside and praziquantel (known antiparasitic compounds, also found in the Profender® range) and tigolaner (a novel active ingredient).

### **[Box out] Tigolaner – new chemical class for long-lasting action against fleas and ticks**

Tigolaner is at the forefront of innovation in feline parasitology, as the first active ingredient of the bispyrazole chemical class. It treats and protects cats against fleas and ticks for up to 13 weeks and is also effective for the treatment of ear mite infestations and mild to moderate cases of notoedric mange.<sup>3</sup>

Its unique mode of action inhibits the parasite's gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA) receptors, disrupting nervous system function, resulting in the parasite's death.

Felpreva® is now available for veterinarians to prescribe in many European countries. For more information, please contact your local Vetoquinol Representative.

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## **References**

<sup>1</sup> McNamara, J., Drake, J., Wiseman, S. and Wright, I., 2018. Survey of European pet owners quantifying endoparasitic infection risk and implications for deworming recommendations. *Parasites & Vectors*, 11(1)

<sup>2</sup> Study of 1416 cat owners in UK, Germany, France and Italy. Conducted by Sapio Research in August 2021.

<sup>3</sup> European Commission Union Register of Veterinary Medicinal Products – Felpreva. 2021. Available from: <https://ec.europa.eu/health/documents/community-register/html/v277.htm> [Accessed 16 November 2021].