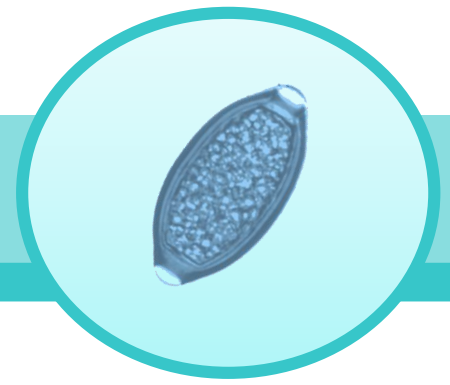


# Whipworm



## What is Whipworm?

One of the most common intestinal parasites found in your dog. They are only occasionally seen in cats. The whipworm lives in your dog's cecum, which is the part of the intestine where the small and large intestines meet. They are small in comparison to the roundworm, and may only reach about 2-3 inches at full length. They have a thin "whip-like" front end, and a thicker back end, and are white.

## How can my dog get whipworm?

Your dog may become infected with whipworm (*Trichuris sp.*) by ingesting infected fecal material from another dog or animal, water, or soil.

## Symptoms of whipworm

Your dog may not show symptoms of whipworm if he/she is infected. More serious infections may cause bloody diarrhea, weight loss, anemia, and in severe cases can lead to death.

## How are whipworms diagnosed?

Whipworms may be diagnosed under a microscope on a routine fecal analysis. Annual fecal exams are always recommended.

Because of this is a hardy parasite and the eggs can survive for long periods in the environment, the possibility of re-infection is significant. Therefore, removal of infected dog feces from the environment is very important.

## How are whipworms prevented?

Most regular dewormers/heartworm preventive medications will prevent/treat whipworms.

