

Giardia. Understanding Giardia will help you recognize the signs early and take steps to prevent its spread, ensuring your pet remains happy and healthy.

Giardia is a microscopic parasite that can infect the intestines of dogs, cats, and humans. It's particularly prevalent in areas with poor sanitation or where animals are in close contact, such as kennels, shelters, and crowded neighborhoods. Pets can contract Giardia by ingesting infected water, soil, or feces.

The most common symptom of a Giardia infection is diarrhea, which may be sudden, chronic, intermittent, or greasy and foul-smelling. Other symptoms can include: - Vomiting - Weight loss - Dehydration - Poor coat condition Not all infected animals show symptoms but can still spread the parasite.

If your pet shows any of these symptoms, it's crucial to contact us. We can diagnose Giardia through fecal testing. Treatment typically includes prescribed medication to kill the parasite, and in cases of dehydration, may require fluid therapy. It's also important to thoroughly clean your environment to prevent re-infection.

Preventing Giardia involves a few simple yet effective steps: - Ensure your pet has access to clean, fresh water at all times. - Avoid areas where your pet might come into contact with feces from other animals. - Practice good hygiene, including washing your hands after handling pets, especially if they're showing signs of illness. - Clean and disinfect your home regularly, especially areas where your pet eats, sleeps, and plays.

Giardia can infect humans, so taking measures to prevent your pet from contracting Giardia also protects your family. If anyone in your home develops symptoms like diarrhea or stomach cramps, it's important to consult a healthcare provider and mention the possibility of contact with a pet diagnosed with Giardia. Our team is here to support you and your pet in maintaining a healthy, active lifestyle. If you have any questions about Giardia, believe your pet may be at risk, or want to discuss preventive healthcare, please don't hesitate to reach out.