

VALE WILDLIFE HOSPITAL & REHABILITATION CENTRE

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EUROPEAN HEDGEHOG PARASITE TREATMENT PROTOCOLS

Following examination of a faecal sample under a microscope, treatments are carried out at Vale depending on the parasites found. The following are the protocols we use for the most commonly found parasites:

Capillaria eggs / adult roundworms:

-  Marbocyl 2% @ 0.4ml/kg daily by s/c injection for 10 days. Baytril can be used instead of Marbocyl (dosage depends on strength of Baytril). If only a small number of eggs are found, the Ivomec can be given without the need for antibiotics as well but check weight daily.
-  Ivomec Super @ 0.5ml/kg weekly by s/c injection for 3 weeks. Recalculate the dose each week as weight should have increased.

Crenosoma larvae & Thorny-headed worms:

-  Marbocyl 2% @ 0.4ml/kg daily by s/c injection for 10 days. Baytril can be used as above.
-  Levacide Drench 7.5% @ 0.4ml/kg topically daily for 3 days. Leave a 10 day break then repeat for 3 more days. Recalculate dose at this point as weight should have increased.

If the hedgehog's breathing is affected or there is severe coughing, also give:

-  Dexamethasone (2mgs/ml) @ 0.5ml/kg twice daily for 3 days by s/c injection, and
-  Ventipulmin @ 0.1ml/kg twice daily by s/c injection for 3 days.

Fluke:

-  Profender Spot-on for cats @ 0.5ml/kg directly on skin on the underbelly of the hedgehog weekly for 3 weeks (it does not absorb sufficiently well through the thicker skin/muscle on the spined area of the back).

Coccidia:

-  Tribissen 24% @ 0.5ml/kg daily by s/c injection for 7 days, **or**
-  Baycox Oral Suspension @ 2ml/kg by mouth (or mix with a small amount of food). Repeat after 10 days. Recalculate the dose as weight should have increased.

**REGULAR FAECAL SAMPLING IS IMPORTANT TO MAKE SURE NOTHING IS MISSED
AND THAT THE CORRECT DRUG IS USED.**

**REMEMBER THAT EGGS/LARVAE/OOCYSTS ARE NOT SHED IN EVERY SAMPLE SO A CLEAR
EXAMINATION DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN NO PARASITES ARE PRESENT.**