



Heathmont Vet News



Arthritis treatment breakthrough

For many years, canine arthritis has lacked major breakthroughs in treatments despite the large number of dogs, 80% of dogs older than 8 years, that suffer from arthritis. However, a new treatment, Berensa, is now available on the Australian market and at HAH! Berensa is a once-monthly injectable given by your veterinarian. It is a monoclonal antibody which is highly specific to its target (NGF; nerve growth factor) which it blocks to reduce the perception of pain by the patient.

Berensa is much safer than traditional drugs like anti-inflammatories because monoclonal antibodies are naturally occurring proteins, therefore they require minimal metabolism or detoxification by the liver or kidneys. This means Berensa (and the cat equivalent, Solensia) are great options for pets with chronic kidney or liver disease. As with all treatments, each pet is an individual who will respond differently, varying from excellent results to minimal improvement. We still recommend using Berensa in combination with other tried and tested arthritis treatments such as weight loss, supplements (green lipped mussel, glucosamine) and Zydax injections as part of a multi-modal drug approach to arthritis

WE'RE OFFERING...

\$10

NURSE NAIL CLIPS!

TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS IN SEPTEMBER

BOOK NOW
9729 4466

Heathmont
ANIMAL HOSPITAL

Paw-dicure Promotion

Tuesdays and Fridays for the month of September we are offering \$10 nail clips with a nurse for your pets! Dogs, cats, rabbits and guinea pigs are all welcome, just call the clinic on 9729 4466 to reserve a time today. Available to all existing and new clients, so tell your friends!

OUR VETS

Dr. Peter Green BVSc, BBS, MACVSc
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Koala-lity learning

Dr. Peter and Nurses Jo, Leeanne and Carrie have undertaken a 3 month course in wildlife medicine run by Taronga Zoo in conjunction with Zoos Victoria. They have all recieved a certification in Professional Training in Wildlife Treatment and Care, developing skills in triage, first aid, treatment and care of Australian native species. Congratulations team!

New NEXGARD for cats

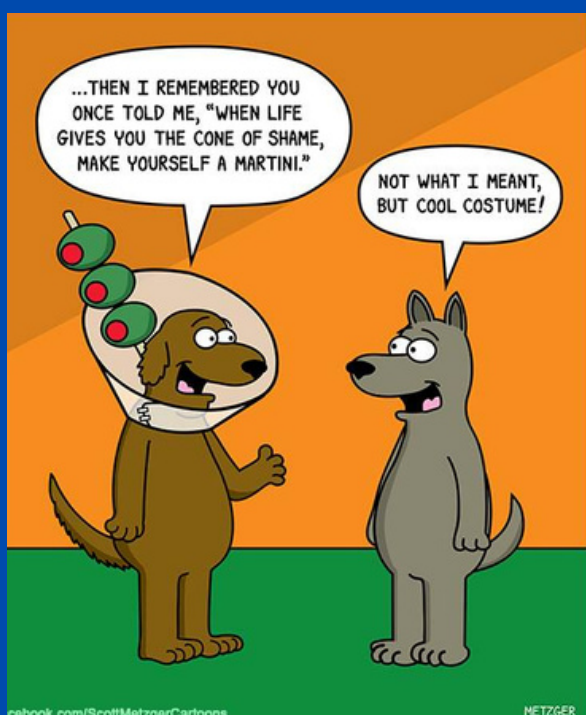
There is a new parasite control on the market from September 2023 to make your life as easy as possible! From a name you can trust, the new 'all-in-one' Nexgard Spectra Spot on for Cats is the MOST complete parasite control on the market that now covers ticks, lungworms AND tapeworms in cats, as well as the usual fleas, mites, heartworm, roundworms and hookworms. That means no more worming tablets!

An easy to dispense liquid, applied to the back of the neck once monthly and suitable for cats from 8 weeks of age, Nexgard Spectra for cats can also be used in cats who are pregnant or lactating.

Parasite control is essential for cats that go outside as they are likely coming into contact with other cats/dogs as well as wildlife and their stools! Even if your pet is indoor only mosquitos, diets containing raw meats and even faecal material/soil on your shoes can spread parasites.

Grandpa Green

We are excited to share that Dr.Peter become a grandfather for the first time in August! His son and daughter-in-law welcomed a healthy baby boy, Daniel. Our congratulations to the Green family on the new arrival.



Why does my dog eat grass?

You will be happy to know that grass eating is quite common and considered normal dog behaviour.

So why do dogs eat grass?

- 1) **They like it-** taste, or texture!
- 2) **To induce vomiting** - this can make them feel better if their tummy is upset or gassy, or they've eaten something bad
- 3) **Nutritional benefits** - they may be eating grass to make up for a nutritional deficiency, as grass is high in dietary fibre. This could suggest their diet is not balanced.
- 4) **Boredom**- it is not uncommon for an anxious or bored dog to start eating grass. If your dog is alone all day in the backyard, they may be eating grass as a form of entertainment.