Feline Heartworm Life Cycle

Feline heartworm disease is transmitted by mosquitos that have fed on infected animals.



First stage (L1) heartworm larvae (Microfilariae) develop inside the mosquito to stage 3 (L3), at which point they are considered infective.

06 180 + DAYS

Adult heartworms die, causing pulmonary signs and lesions.

01

Infected mosquito bites your cat, depositing L3 larvae.

05 90-180 DAYS

L5 larvae mature to adults in the lungs and heart.

02

1-3 DAYS

L3 larvae develop into L4 larvae.

70-90 DAYS

L5 larvae arrive in the heart and are carried to the lungs.

0350-70

L4 larvae develop to L5 during migration to the heart.

90 + DAYS

Many L5 larvae die, causing pulmonary signs and lesions.

Signs of Heartworm Disease in Cats

- Coughing
 Vomiting
- · Lethargy · Difficulty breathing
- · Collapse · Weight loss
- · Sudden death

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NOT A COMPLETE LIST. CONSULT YOUR VETERINARIAN.