Heartworm Significance: A Closer Look

Q: How significant is heartworm disease as a health issue in your practice area?

- 18% say heartworm is a significant disease but not in the top tier
- 15% say heartworm is one of the most significant diseases I see
- 13% never see heartworm-positive animals
- 54% occasionally see heartworm-positive animals
- 18% say heartworm is a significant disease but not in the top tier

Heartworm Incidence: Up or Down?

Veterinarians Weigh In

Why veterinarians say incidence is DOWN
- 74% say more pet owners are administering preventives
- 63% see more year-round usage of preventives, more doses given on time
- 48% say pet owners have access to highly effective preventives
- 16% believe weather trends caused decrease in mosquitoes

Why veterinarians say incidence is UP
- 61% cite poor compliance, owners don’t administer preventives year-round or they skip doses
- 40% say infected Southern rescue dogs moved into the area
- 39% believe weather trends caused increase in mosquitoes
- 33% report that fewer pet owners are administering preventives

Q: In your opinion, what is the trend of heartworm prevalence in your practice area over the past three years?
A: 19% of veterinarians surveyed said the trend is up, 21% said the trend is down and 60% said it has stayed the same.