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Important Facts about your Indoor Cat

- ★ Cockroaches, mice, and flies all can carry roundworm eggs--cats are natural hunters and will hunt them!

General Concepts in Zoonotic Disease Control, Lappin, 2005.

- ★ 15% of commercial potting soil contains roundworm eggs.

The Veterinary Record, February 18, 2006.

- ★ Animals that go outdoors like dogs and people can bring in parasites and infect the “indoor” cat.

- ★ A CDC study demonstrates that nearly 14% of the U.S. human population is infected with *Toxocara*, a parasite of dogs and cats that can be passed on to humans.

- The same study also states, “Although most people with Toxocara have no symptoms, the parasite is capable of causing blindness and other systemic illnesses”.

CDC, 2007.

- ★ Children and immune-compromised people (cancer patients, people with HIV/AIDS or organ transplants) are more susceptible to being infected with these parasites.

- 40% of immune-compromised people have a pet at home.

Greene’s Infectious Diseases, 2007.

- ★ Roundworm (*Toxocara cati*) are estimated to produce as many as 24,000 eggs per day.

- ★ In just 30 days, 25 female fleas can multiply to over a 250,000.

Noxon J. Fleas and Flea Control. February 8, 2005.

- ★ It takes only 1 adult heartworm in a cat’s heart to be fatal. Cats that die from heartworm can be clinically normal 1 hour before death.

- ★ Over 25% of cats with proven heartworm infection are reported by their owners to be kept indoor, exclusively.

Atkins, CE, DeFrancesco TC, Coats JR, et al. Heartworm infection in cats: 50 cases (1985-1997) JAVMA 2000; 217:355-358.