

Heartworm positive adoptions

Renegade Paws Rescue adopts out heartworm positive dogs after the pre-treatment process has begun. Pre-treatment consists of: weighing the dog, completing a 28 day cycle of doxycycline, and administering a milbrigaurd or other approved monthly heartworm preventative.

Adopters of heartworm positive dogs must sign an adoption addendum stating that they will follow the pre-treatment procedure, administer the prescribed medication, and be present on the assigned treatment day. If possible, the treatment day will be scheduled prior to adoption. The adopter should have the telephone number for Renegade Paws Rescue and the dog's case manager at the time of adoption.

All adopters must receive and review the heartworm informational hand-out and be added to the "Heartworms Suck" Facebook group and group text with Jen 912-665-6046

Protocol as follows

1. Heartworm Test: positive (must have an accurate weight at this time)
2. Start doxycycline as soon as possible. If the foster receives the medication including prevention(foil packets-2) The dog should remain on heartworm prevention during doxycycline.
3. The dog should also get prevention every 30 days even after injections. This is very important Each dog will receive the prevention the same as if they were heartworm negative

The dog should be weighed at least 2 days before injections. Injections are given on a Wednesday and Thursday evening. Before the first injection on tuesday dogs will receive their first dose of pain medication, they will receive another dose the morning before treatment. A renegade will coordinate that with you.

The dogs will receive 2 injections, one on each night unless contraindicated. Dr. Chafkin makes that call

The dog can be retested in 6 months

Parents will receive steroids and pain medication to go home with after the injections. If the dog is hard to keep calm we will start with benadryl 1-2 mg per kg and if still too active we will try some other medications beginning with gabapentin

After injections your dog has to limit exercise, leash walk only short distances. No vigorous play. 30 days

The steroids will make your dog urinate and drink more. Do not feed them more, the steroids also make them hungry.

