

# Robinson Veterinary Services

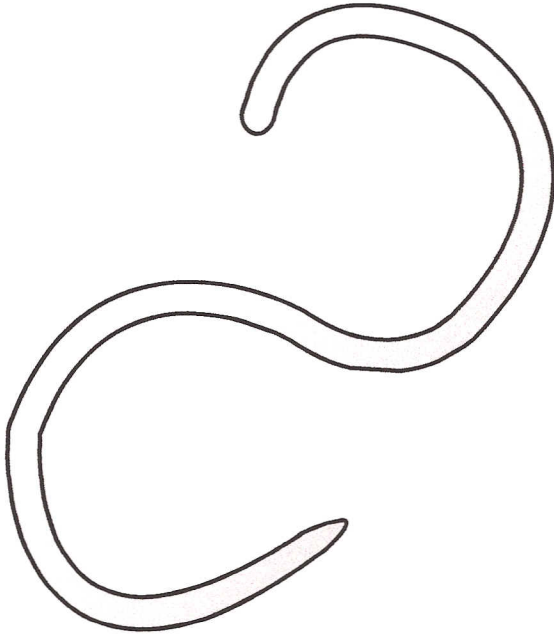
3285 London Line Wyoming, ON N0N1T0

Phone: 519-542-9588

Fax: 519-542-8789

Web: [www.robinsonvet.com](http://www.robinsonvet.com)

**Roundworm:** Adult roundworms and symptoms of infection.



Actual size 3-6"  
(8-15cm)

Used Under License  
Copyright© Lifelearn Inc.

Roundworms are one of the most common intestinal parasites of dogs and cats. Adult roundworms are large worms, averaging 3-6" (8-15cm) in length, that resemble strands of spaghetti. *Toxocara canis* infect dogs, *Toxocara cati* infect cats, and *Toxascaris leonina* can infect either species. Roundworms are found in the intestinal tract and eat partially digested intestinal contents. They are not usually harmful to adult dogs or cats, but if they are present in large numbers, they can cause serious illness in puppies or kittens. Small numbers of roundworms may cause no symptoms, but in larger numbers, they will cause abdominal discomfort, diarrhea, and stunted growth. Roundworm infections are usually diagnosed when a fecal sample from an infected animal is examined under the microscope. In heavy infections, the animal may vomit roundworms. For more details on this parasite and how it is transmitted, see the image "Roundworm Life Cycle" or refer to our Client Education Handout Series.