

Robinson Veterinary Services

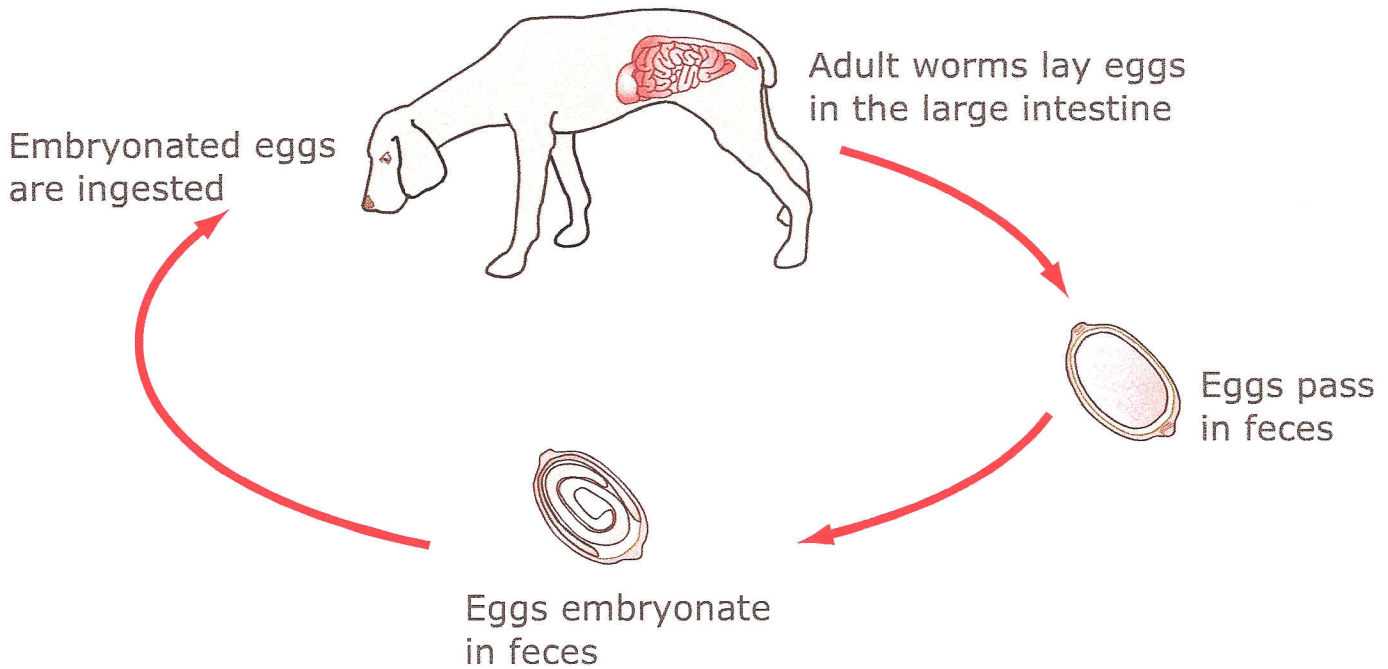
3285 London Line Wyoming, ON N0N1T0

Phone: 519-542-9588

Fax: 519-542-8789

Web: www.robinsonvet.com

Whipworm Life Cycle: Life cycle of the whipworm.



Used Under License
Copyright© Lifelearn Inc.

Whipworms are intestinal parasites that are about 1/4 inch (6mm) long. They are one of the most pathogenic intestinal parasites of the dog, living in the lower intestine and causing severe irritation. The symptoms of whipworm infection include severe bloody diarrhea, weight loss, and general debilitation. Dogs acquire an infection by ingesting infective eggs from their environment. The infective eggs hatch and mature into adult whipworms in the lower intestinal tract. Adults lay small numbers of eggs at infrequent intervals. These eggs mature in the environment to an infective stage in 10-60 days, completing the cycle. Eggs are highly resistant and can live for years before infecting a new host. Whipworms are species specific to the dog. However, multiple stool samples are often required because these parasites pass small numbers of eggs on an irregular basis.