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| **Name Of Drug** | **Mechanism of Action** | **Parasite it affects** | **Dose** | **Contraindications and Side effects** | **Route of Administration** | **Other Information** |
| Dichlorophen |  | Dogs and cats:  Taenia spp., Dipylidium spp. |  |  | Oral | Combined with other antinematodal drugs in many proprietary formulations to treat both nematodes and cestodes simultaneously. |
| Praziquantel (Droncit®) | Praziquantel exact mechanism of action against cestodes has not been determined. At low concentrations in vitro, the drug appears to impair the function of their suckers and stimulates the worms motility. At higher concentrations in vitro, praziquantel increases the contraction (irreversibly at very high concentrations) of the worms strobilla (chain of proglottids).  Also, praziquantel causes irreversible focal vacuolization with subsequent cestodal disintegration at specific sites of the cestodal integument.  In schistosomes and trematodes, praziquantel directly kills the parasite, possibly by increasing calcium ion flux into the worm. Focal vacuolization of the integument follows and the parasite is phagocytized. | Taenia, Dipylidium, Spirometra, Diphyllobothrium | Dogs:  For susceptible cestodes:  5 mg/kg  For Echinococcus granulosus: 10 mg/kg  For Echinococcus granulosus: 10 mg/kg  Spirometra mansonoides or Diphyllobothrium erinacei: 7.5 mg/kg PO once daily for 2 days.  Cats:  23 mg/kg PO q8h for 3 days  Sheep and Goats:  Moniezia, Stilesia, or Avitellina:  10 - 15 mg/kg | The manufacturer recommends not using  Praziquantel in puppies less than 4 weeks old or in kittens less than 6 weeks old. However, a combination product containing praziquantel and febantel from the same manufacturer is approved for use in puppies and kittens of all ages. No other contraindications are listed for this compound by the manufacturer. In humans, praziquantel is contraindicated in patients hypersensitive to the drug. Praziquantel is considered to be safe to use in pregnant dogs or cats. | Oral | Absorption is rapid, and distributed to all organs.  Rapidly metabolised in liver to inactive form |