



Relax, it's topical.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. What is Profender®?

Profender® is a broad-spectrum dewormer for cats, labelled for the treatment and control of parasitic infections caused by developing L4, sexually immature adult and adult stages of **hookworms** (*Ancylostoma tubaeforme*) and **roundworms** (*Toxocara cati*), and all intestinal stages of **tapeworms** (*Dipylidium caninum* and *Taenia taeniaeformis*).

### 2. How does Profender® work?

Profender®'s two active ingredients, emodepside and praziquantel, are absorbed through the cat's skin and then into the bloodstream. The ingredients travel through the blood to reach the intestine and act on intestinal parasites. Emodepside has activity against hookworms and roundworms. Praziquantel has activity against tapeworms.

### 3. How is Profender® applied?

Profender® is applied topically to a single spot on the skin at the base of the cat's skull. Profender® must only be applied to the skin surface on intact skin.

### 4. What is the minimum age you can apply Profender® on cats and kittens?

Profender® is indicated for cats and kittens eight weeks of age and older, weighing at least 0.5 kg.

### 5. How is Profender® different from other feline dewormers?

Profender® is applied topically, which is different from other feline dewormers that are administered orally. In addition to treating adult *T. cati*, *A. tubaeforme*, *D. caninum* and *T. taeniaeformis*, Profender® is also labelled to treat both the sexually immature adult and L4 larvae of *A. tubaeforme* and *T. cati*, and all intestinal stages of *D. caninum* and *T. taeniaeformis*.

### 6. Should a fecal exam be performed prior to Profender® application?

While not necessary, it would be medically appropriate to perform a fecal exam to determine which intestinal parasites are present before applying Profender®.

### 7. Should all cats in the household be treated at the same time?

With Profender® there is no specific recommendation to treat all in-contact animals. The assessment of parasitic risk to other animals, and the subsequent preventative or therapeutic approach, should be made by the attending veterinarian.

### 8. How does Profender® work on the prepatent period for roundworms?

Profender® is labelled for the treatment and control of parasitic infections caused by developing L4, sexually immature adult and adult stages of roundworms (*Toxocara cati*). With the removal of the immature stages, the risk of development of worms to patency is reduced during the treatment interval.

- 9. Why is it necessary to regularly deworm cats and kittens?**  
Kittens present the greatest risk for zoonotic transmission of roundworms and hookworms. The CDC and CAPC recommend deworming kittens every two weeks between three and nine weeks of age, beginning monthly prevention at eight to nine weeks of age. Profender® fits into these recommendations as a monthly preventive that can be given beginning at eight weeks of age. Adult cats should receive regular year-round deworming with the frequency of administration being tailored to reflect factors such as the pet's lifestyle, nutritional status and general health as well as the owner's health status, regional parasitic challenges and seasonal variation. Fecal examinations should be conducted two to four times during the first year of life and one to two times per year after as dictated by the risk factors for that pet.
- 10. How does Profender® fit into our strategic deworming program?**  
Profender® provides excellent treatment and control of roundworms, hookworms and tapeworms in cats, and complements a year-round strategic deworming program.
- 11. Have safety studies with Profender® been conducted in cats?**  
Yes. Profender® was shown to be safe when applied on kittens at up to 5X normal dermal dose, given every two weeks for six treatments, and 10X normal dermal dose on adult cats. There is a significant margin of safety for the administration of Profender® to kittens and adult cats.
- 12. What happens if a cat licks Profender®?**  
The product is very bitter and oral ingestion by a cat may result in hypersalivation, oral irritation or gastrointestinal upset. All such side effects were self-limiting in clinical and field trials. Avoid getting Profender® in the cat's mouth or eyes, or allowing the cat to lick the application site, for one hour following application.
- 13. What happens if a pet owner gives Profender® by mouth?**  
An oral safety study was conducted to investigate the safety of an inadvertent oral uptake of Profender® in adult cats. The study demonstrated that the most common side effects seen in cats were hypersalivation and vomiting.
- 14. Is Profender® safe to use on pregnant and lactating cats?**  
Yes. There is a significant margin of safety for cats administered Profender® during pregnancy and lactation. Profender® was administered three times during pregnancy and three times during lactation at up to 3X maximum therapeutic dose. No side effects associated with the treatments were observed in any of the queens or kittens.
- 15. What should you do if a child touches the application spot while it is still wet?**  
If anyone comes in contact with the Profender® application spot while wet, wash hands thoroughly with soap and warm water. To prevent accidental ingestion of the product, children should not come in contact with the application site for up to 24 hours while the product is being absorbed.
- 16. What size of Profender® do I use on a cat over 8 kg?**  
Use the appropriate combination of Profender® tubes to treat cats that weigh more than 8 kg.
- 17. Does Profender® have an expiry date?**  
Yes. All drugs must have an expiry date, and Profender® has an expiry date of 36 months after date of manufacture.
- 18. Can Profender® be used on dogs?**  
No. Profender® is labelled for use on cats only.



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[www.animalhealth.bayer.ca/Profender](http://www.animalhealth.bayer.ca/Profender)

