

Parasitic Disease

There is a wide variety of parasites that can affect our small pets, both internally and externally.

Encephalitozoon cuniculi is a protozoal parasite that attacks the neurological system. It causes a variety of signs including complete or partial loss of balance, head tilt, paralysis, seizures and eye disturbances. It can often be fatal, and is a distressing condition for both owner and rabbit. Fenbendazole is the treatment of choice for E.cuniculi but the prognosis is always guarded in a rabbit showing signs.

Roundworms and tapeworms can be an issue in rabbits, and other small furries, so a regular programme of worming once or twice a year is advisable. Your Vet can advise you on the best options for treatment.

External parasites such as fleas, mites and ticks can also affect rabbits and other small furries.

Fleas can be controlled on rabbits treatments available from your Vet.

Mites can be a real problem and cause an itchy scaly appearance to your pet, often described as “walking dandruff”. We also see ear mites with or without any affect on the rest of the coat. Luckily we can treat mites in several ways. The treatment of mites may require multiple treatments to ensure the lifecycle is the mite is completely destroyed.

