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AAFP Endorses CAPC Guidelines for Effective Parasite Control

BEL AIR, Md. (December 18, 2006) – The Companion Animal Parasite Council (CAPC) announces that its parasite control guidelines have been endorsed by the American Association of Feline Practitioners (AAFP). The endorsement of the guidelines by AAFP acknowledges and supports the ongoing efforts of CAPC to educate veterinarians and pet owners about parasites and the potential risk of zoonotic disease transmission.

Dr. Mike Paul, CAPC executive director, said the organization is grateful for the support they continue to receive from the veterinary profession. “The AAFP ‘seal of approval’ will go a long way to boosting awareness and understanding of the parasite guidelines, leading to their increased implementation as part of best medicine practices for cats,” Paul said. He notes that research continues to show cats receive less regular veterinary care than dogs, greatly increasing their need for regular parasite examination, prevention and control recommendations.

“We look forward to working with the AAFP and other professional organizations to continue in our mission of educating veterinary professionals and the public on the importance of parasite control in cats, as well as dogs.”

The CAPC guidelines were developed in 2003 to increase practitioner and consumer awareness of parasitic diseases and the zoonotic risks to human health, while encouraging the implementation of year-round preventive measures that improve pet health and the human-animal bond.

“Internal and external parasites are a significant cause of disease and discomfort in cats, and can pose a threat to the health of people,” said Dr. James Richards, past-president of AAFP and director of the Cornell Feline Health Center. “The American Association of Feline Practitioners is very happy to endorse and promote the CAPC parasite guidelines. More importantly, we encourage veterinarians to implement them into their practices as part of an effective feline wellness program.”

The guidelines and other parasite information can be found at www.capcvet.org or www.petsandparasites.org.

The American Association of Feline Practitioners (www.aafponline.org) is the premier organization of veterinarians dedicated to feline medicine. The American Association of Feline Practitioners supports professional growth and fellowship by providing outstanding continuing education, research and outreach programs intended to improve the health and well-being of cats.

About CAPC

The mission of the CAPC is to foster animal and human health, while preserving the human-animal bond, through recommendations for the diagnosis and year-round management of parasitic infections in dogs and cats. The CAPC is an independent council of veterinarians and other animal health care professionals established to create guidelines for the optimal control of internal and external parasites that threaten the health of pets and people. Its membership represents broad expertise in parasitology, human medicine, public health, veterinary law, private practice and association leadership.

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