



Guide Dogs for the Blind

Administering Nexgard® for Flea and Tick Prevention

Guide Dogs for the Blind is transitioning from Frontline Gold to Nexgard® chewable tablets for our organization's flea and tick prevention for training dogs, puppies, and active guides. Nexgard® kills fleas, ticks, and mites and is considered safe for dogs *over 8 weeks of age*. It contains a product called afoxolaner, which blocks insect-specific neurotransmitters. It is administered as a once-a-month oral beef-flavored chewable tablet. It has excellent efficacy in all regions of the United States. Because it is a flavored chew, the product should be stored in a secure place that is not accessible to dogs in the home.

What is the best way to give my dog Nexgard®?

Most dogs consider the Nexgard® chewable tablets tasty treats. If they do not find the chewable tablet inviting, it can be broken into crumbles and added to the dog's food bowl at mealtime. Observe dogs for a few minutes after they receive the Nexgard® chewable tablet to make sure they have consumed the entire dose.

Should I give Nexgard® with food?

Nexgard® can be given with or without food.

What do I do if my puppy vomits after they eat the Nexgard® chew?

If vomiting occurs within two hours of administration, give another dose with food the following day.

Can the dog I'm raising be on Nexgard® if they are being treated with another medication?

Yes – It is ok for Nexgard® to be given at the same time as other medications.

Can all dogs be on Nexgard®?

Most flea and tick products, including the most commonly used such Simparica, Bravecto and Nexgard, have not been evaluated for safe use in breeding, pregnant, or lactating dogs. This does not mean the products are not safe, it means that specific testing for reproductive safety has not been done. It is not recommended for dogs with a history of seizures.

GDB puppies that are intact and/or being considered for breeding purposes will use Nexgard® while in the puppy raising home. If selected for breeding, their flea and tick medication will be transitioned.

GDB is exceptionally fortunate to have a veterinary theriogenologist (reproduction specialist) on our veterinary team. In fact, Guide Dogs for the Blind is the only guide dog school that has this veterinary expertise as part of an in-house medical team. This resource, in collaboration with theriogenologists across the country, support us as we continue to make the best decisions for all our program dogs.

If Nexgard® is beef-flavored, can I give it to my dog if they have a suspected food allergy?

Nexgard® can be given to dogs with food allergies. While the chew is 'beef-flavored', it contains soy protein instead of animal protein. Your puppy's veterinarian will be the best one to decide if Nexgard® is the best flea and tick prevention for a particular dog with suspected food allergies.

How do I determine a Nexgard® schedule for my dog?

Nexgard® should be given on a monthly basis. We recommend giving it on the first of every month along with the monthly heartworm prevention. If you have just received your puppy, here are the recommendations:

If you received your puppy BEFORE they turned 8 weeks of age:

- They will not have received flea and tick prevention yet.
- If your puppy turns 8 weeks old between the 1st and the 15th of the month, please give a dose of Nexgard® on their 8-week birthday and then start dosing once per month on the 1st of each month thereafter.
- If your puppy turns 8 weeks of age between the 16th and the 31st of the month, please start giving Nexgard® on the 1st of the upcoming month.

If you received your puppy AFTER they turned 8 weeks of age:

- They received a dose of Nexgard® on campus when they turned 8 weeks old.
- If your puppy turned 8 weeks of age between the 1st and the 15th of the month, please start Nexgard® on the 1st of the upcoming month, and then on the 1st of the month thereafter.
- If your puppy turned 8 weeks of age between the 16th and the 31st of the month, please wait until the 1st of the following month to start. Do not start on the 1st of the month after you get your pup to avoid overdose. For example, if your pup turned 8 weeks on July 20th and you got them on July 25th, they'd start getting Nexgard® on September 1st.

What do I do if the dog I'm raising misses a dose?

If a dose of Nexgard® is missed, administer Nexgard® and resume a monthly dosing schedule if there is more than 14 days before the first of the month.

For the short period of time the dog may not be on flea prevention, what do I do?

If you are waiting to give a first dose, you can decrease the likelihood of flea issues by bathing them, brushing and flea combing them, and avoiding areas where there is a flea infestation. Should you encounter a flea problem during this time, please contact our VFA team for advice on a safe alternate schedule for starting Nexgard®.