Feline heartworm antigen diagnostic algorithm

**Sick/at-risk/pre-prevention cats**

**No clinical signs**
- **FHW Ag Negative**
  - No action required

**Clinical signs**
- **FHW Ag Positive**
  - 1. Confirm with retest
  - 2. Radiographs (characterize infection impact to lungs)
  - 3. CBC, chemistry, and/or other appropriate tests*

**Follow-up**
Refer to the American Heartworm Society (AHS)/Companion Animal Parasite Council (CAPC) guidelines

**Treatment/follow-up**
- Treat according to American Heartworm Society (AHS) guidelines
- Retest 6–12 months assessing for:
  - Conversion to FHW Ag negative status
  - Improvement of pulmonary lesions

**FHW Ag Negative**
- 1. Feline Heartworm Antibody Test
- 2. Radiographs
- 3. Echocardiogram
- 4. CBC, chemistry, and/or other appropriate tests*

If no definitive diagnosis, repeat in 1–3 months

* Young Feline Maintenance Profile, which includes a chemistry panel, comprehensive CBC, and feline heartworm antibody test, is available through IDEXX Laboratories.

This algorithm was developed with input from members of the American Heartworm Society, Companion Animal Parasite Council, and IDEXX Laboratories. Refer to the American Heartworm Society guidelines (www.heartwormsociety.org) and the Companion Animal Parasite Council guidelines (www.capcvet.org) for complete testing, management, and prevention recommendations.

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