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Treating an Existing Flea Infestation

The Problem

If you're seeing live fleas crawling around on your pet, then you must realize that you have an infestation in your home. This means that in addition to the adult fleas you are seeing, there are eggs and larvae in the carpet, rugs, furniture, and cracks or crevices in the home. Homes with crawl spaces underneath may also have adult fleas, eggs and larvae in those spaces.

Easiest Method

By using Frontline or Revolution, you will be killing the adult fleas that jump on the pet for an entire month. In addition, if any of the adult fleas live long enough to lay eggs, those eggs will be sterile (they won't hatch and develop into an adult flea).

This next point is really important! As long as the weather is warm, (and especially if it is warm and humid), the eggs that were laid in the home prior to the use of Frontline or Revolution will continue to hatch. How many eggs are we talking about? One adult female flea can lay up to 50 eggs per day. Also, experts agree that fleas are like cockroaches; if you see one flea, there are up to 100 more fleas that you're not seeing in the environment! So if you are seeing adult fleas on your pet, you have a lot of eggs in the environment which will continue to hatch, and develop into adults. These fleas will die when they hop on your pet that you have treated with Frontline or Revolution.

The easiest method for treating your home is to keep all your pets treated with Frontline or Revolution, and wait. Frontline and Revolution are strongest during the first two weeks after application, then they get weaker toward the end of the month, at which point you may start seeing adult fleas again. To combat this problem, we suggest that you give all your pets Capstar once a week for the first four to eight weeks after you start using Frontline or Revolution.

Capstar is a pill that you give to your pet by mouth. Within 20 minutes, the drug is in the pet's bloodstream, and any adult flea that takes a blood meal (which fleas must do to reproduce) will drop dead. Capstar only stays in the pet's bloodstream for 24 hours, and it is extremely safe for

dogs, cats and rabbits. By giving Capstar once a week, you are causing a quick, massive kill of the adult fleas. This quick kill keeps the adult flea population below a level that is a problem for you and your pet.

For most people, in one to two months, the existing flea infestation will be well under control, and they will only need to use Frontline or Revolution from that point on. To prevent future infestations, we recommend using these products either all year 'round (which is ideal), or at least April through October (through the first hard frost). By using these products during the warm weather months, these products are guaranteed by the manufacturers to prevent flea infestations, because they work on the flea life cycle in two ways, by killing the adults and the eggs.

Advantages of Frontline and Revolution Versus Over-the-Counter Products	
Revolution or Frontline	Over-the-Counter Products
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Break the flea life cycle in two places, making them very effective ✓ Very, very safe for both the pet and the people who play with them ✓ Doesn't wash off ✓ Only need to be applied once a month ✓ Are guaranteed by the manufacturer to work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Only break the flea life cycle in one place, if at all ✗ Many wash off easily ✗ No manufacturer guarantee