

## Toxoplasmosis

Toxoplasmosis can be an infectious disease that causes seizures in cats. It is a parasite that is found in the ground and can be carried by other cats. It can also be passed by eating raw or under cooked meats. Both people and cats who are infected, have very few symptoms because a healthy person's immune system usually keeps the parasite from causing illness. However, pregnant women and individuals who have compromised immune systems should be cautious; for them, a *Toxoplasma* infection could cause serious health problems.

Since we are treating your pet for a possible infection of toxoplasmosis please practice safe litter box handling.

- Ensure the cat litter box is changed daily. The *Toxoplasma* parasite does not become infectious until 1 to 5 days after it is shed in a cat's feces.
- If you are pregnant or immunocompromised:
  1. Avoid changing cat litter if possible. If no one else can perform the task, wear disposable gloves and wash your hands with soap and warm water afterwards.
  2. Keep cats indoors.
  3. Do not adopt or handle stray cats, especially kittens. Do not get a new cat while you are pregnant.

Please contact your physician for further information regarding your health if you have any questions.