**ANTI-CESTODAL DRUGS**

**Anti-tapeworm drugs**

Also referred to as

* + - **Taeniacides** (when they cause death of worm) or
    - **Taeniafuges** (when they facilitate worm expulsion)
* Taeniafuges generally paralyze the worm at least temporarily.
  + - Recovery from paralysis and reattachment before expulsion do  occur sometimes.
    - Hence purgation in conjunction with administration of the taeniafuges is required.

Anticestodal drugs include:

* Natural organic compounds – Mainly of plant origin
* Inorganic compounds Synthetic organic compounds
  + **Bunamidine**
  + **Niclosamide**
  + **Dichlorophen**
  + **Hexachlorohene**
  + **Resorantel**
  + **Bithionol**
  + **Praziquantel**
  + **Epsiprantel**
  + **Benzimidazole**

**Dichlorophen**

* + - Taeniacide with efficacy against ***Taenia*** and ***Dipylidium spp*** in dogs and cats.
    - Combined with other antinematodal drugs in many proprietary formulations to treat  both nematodes and cestodes simultaneously. E.g. Vermiplex, Tri-Plex, Difolin.

**Praziquantel (Droncit®)**

* Excellent activity against spectrum of **adult** and **larval** **cestodes** of animals and human and against all pathogenic species of human schistosome trematodes.
* Acts against ***Taenia***, ***Dipylidium***, ***Spirometra***, ***Diphyllobothrium***
* Absorption is rapid and complete from oral route.
* Praziquantel is distributed to all organs.