

Sodium-Glucose Co-Transporter 2 Inhibitor - Main

Sodium-Glucose Co-Transporter 2 Inhibitor - Oral Solution (Cats)

Sodium-Glucose Co-Transporter 2 Inhibitor - Tablet (Cats)

General Description:

Diabetes mellitus is a common disease affecting blood sugar levels in dogs and cats. Insulin is a hormone that is normally produced by the pancreas and helps to regulate blood glucose (blood sugar). Diabetes in cats is a result of the body not producing enough insulin or the body not using the insulin properly. There are two types of diabetes mellitus in cats: insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (IDDM) and non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (NIDDM). There is no cure for diabetes but several treatment options are available to help control blood sugar levels and alleviate clinical signs. Insulin injections are often the initial treatment of choice for diabetes and preferred over oral anti-diabetic treatments. However, oral medication may be of benefit in certain cases if insulin injections are not an option. This medication is available as a flavored oral tablet or as an oral solution.

What is this drug?

An antidiabetic agent

This medication is not a cure for diabetes, but a tool to control blood sugars and minimize clinical signs

This medication prevents re-absorption of glucose into circulation at the level of the kidneys thereby increasing glucose excretion in the urine

Given orally to cats

Reasons for prescribing:

Used to improve blood glucose control or manage non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus (NIDDM) in healthy cats

What dogs/cats should not take this medication?

This medication should not be used in dogs and is not effective in insulin-dependent cats

This medication should not be used in cats that have previously been treated or are currently being treated with insulin

This medication should not be used in cats weighing less than 3 kg (6.6 lb)

This medication should not be used in cats with kidney disease, liver disease or electrolyte abnormalities

This medication should not be used in cats with ketosis or with other conditions causing an acidosis

This medication should not be used in cats with clinical signs suggestive of pancreatitis

This medication should not be used in unhealthy cats that are anorexic, poor body condition, dehydrated, lethargic, chronic diarrhea or concurrently have an infection (i.e., urinary tract infection)

Safe use of this product in cats previously treated with oral anti-diabetic medications has not been established

Safety in pregnant or nursing pets has not been established

Animals with a known hypersensitivity or allergy to this drug should not take this medication

Directions: Read and follow the prescription label carefully. Give the exact amount prescribed and only as often as directed. Give this medication for as long as your veterinarian directs. Do not skip doses or stop giving the medication without consulting your veterinarian.

Missed doses reduce the effectiveness of therapy. This medication may require 4-8 weeks before full effects are noted. This medication may be a lifelong medication.

Baseline blood work is recommended to assess your pet's general health before starting this medication. Diabetic management requires diligent monitoring and periodic checking of physical exam status, body weight, hydration, blood glucose, blood work, and urinalysis. These will likely be recommended to monitor your pet's diabetes as well as this medication's effects on the body. Dose adjustments may be made based upon these results and an assessment of how your cat is responding clinically.

You may be requested to utilize urine test strips at home to assist with monitoring your pet's diabetes and presence of ketone in the urine. This medication increased the risk of urinary tract infections and regular urine cultures may be recommended.

Keeping blood glucose levels in the proper range will help to control your cat's excessive urination and appetite. Follow any diet and exercise plan developed for your cat by your veterinarian. Do not change your cat's food, feeding schedule or level of activity once regulated. Unscheduled treats should be avoided.

Ensure your cat has fresh, clean drinking water at all times. Monitoring water consumption and urination amount is a good indicator of glucose control.

If your cat's blood sugar values do not improve over the next 4-8 weeks, consider further discussion with your veterinarian as insulin may be required.

Do not give a dose of Sodium-Glucose Co-Transporter 2 Inhibitor if your cat is experiencing low blood glucose (hypoglycemia). Common causes for hypoglycemia include: failure to eat, accidental doubling of Sodium-Glucose Co-Transporter 2 Inhibitor dose, strenuous exercise or drug effects.

This medication will take effect quickly, in about 1 to 2 hours, but its effects may not be visibly noticeable for a few days.

Tell your veterinarian that your cat is taking Sodium-Glucose Co-Transporter 2 Inhibitor before undergoing any surgery or dentistry.

This medication is usually given once daily with meals. This medication can be given directly into the mouth with the provided dosing syringe or in a small amount of wet food. Do not mix this medication into an entire meal. If the medication is put onto food, ensure that your cat consumes the entire dose. If your cat vomits within 30 minutes of medication administration, you can repeat the dose.

Ideally, give this medication at the same time(s) daily.

If you have difficulty giving the medication, contact your veterinarian. Call ahead for refills.

What if dose is missed?

If you miss a dose, give it as soon as you remember it, but if it is within a few hours of the regularly scheduled dose, wait and give it at the regular time. Occasional missed doses are easily tolerated; overdoses can be fatal.

What to tell/ask your veterinarian before giving this medication?

Talk to your veterinarian about:

The signs of diabetes mellitus that you've noticed

The typical signs of low blood glucose (sugar) in cats

When will your pet need to be rechecked. Frequent blood glucose tests, bloodwork and monitoring urine will need to be done to ensure Sodium-Glucose Co-Transporter 2 Inhibitor is doing its job.

The importance of consistent daily dosing, consistent weight, diet and exercise and home monitoring

Risks and benefits of using this drug

Tell your veterinarian about:

If your pet has previously been treated with insulin

If your pet has experienced side effects on other drugs/products

If your pet has experienced digestive upset now or ever

If your pet has experienced liver, pancreas, thyroid, adrenal gland, kidney or urinary tract disease now or ever

If your pet has experienced any other medical problems or allergies now or ever

All medicines and supplements that you are giving your pet or plan to give your pet, including those you can get without a prescription. Your veterinarian may want to check that all of your pet's medicines can be given together.

If your pet is pregnant or nursing. Spaying your intact pet will likely be necessary.

Storage and Warnings:

Sodium-Glucose Co-Transporter 2 Inhibitor should be stored in a childproof container in a cool, dry place at room temperature away from heat and direct sunlight. Once the bottle is open, the contents should be used within 6 months.

Some oral antidiabetic agents can become ineffective over time and insulin may eventually be required. Watch for weight loss, excessive appetite, thirst and urination.

Wash hands after use and avoid contact with eyes as this medication can cause mild irritation.

Keep this and all medication out of reach of children and pets.

Call your physician immediately if you accidentally take this product.

Potential side effects:

This medication can affect the gastrointestinal system causing anorexia, decreased appetite, vomiting, softer stool and diarrhea

This medication may cause lethargy, dehydration and weight loss (this medication can also cause an increase in appetite and weight gain)

This medication can affect calcium levels resulting in an increased risk for urinary tract crystals and bladder stones

Long-term use of this medication may be associated with certain urinary tract cancers

This medication can cause an increase in urination, an increased risk for urinary tract infections and contribute to inappropriate urination

This medication can cause pancreatitis, liver disease, low red blood cells (anemia) and death

This medication can cause an increased risk for diabetic ketoacidosis or euglycemic diabetic ketoacidosis which requires discontinuation of Sodium-Glucose Co-Transporter 2 Inhibitor and immediate in clinic therapy including insulin and nutritional support

Rapid lowering of blood sugar (hypoglycemia) may occur at any time. It can be caused by giving too much Sodium-Glucose Co-Transporter 2 Inhibitor, missing or delaying food, changing the food or amount fed, increasing exercise, an infection or illness or a drug interaction

If your pet had an allergic reaction, they would experience difficulty breathing, hives, scratching, swollen lips, tongue or face, sudden onset of diarrhea, vomiting, shock, seizures, pale gums, cold limbs or coma. If you observe any of these symptoms, contact your veterinarian immediately.

If you notice anything unusual, contact your veterinarian

This short-acting medication should stop working within 24 hours, although effects may last longer in pets with liver or kidney disease

Can this drug be given with other medications?

Yes, but possible interactions may occur when giving Sodium-Glucose Co-Transporter 2 Inhibitor in conjunction with angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors (enalapril), antihypertensive agents (amlodipine, telmisartan), beta-blockers (atenolol, propranolol), corticosteroids (dexamethasone, fludrocortisone, prednisolone, prednisone), diuretics (furosemide, hydrochlorothiazide), estrogens, insulin, progestogens (megestrol) and sulfonyleureas (glipizide)

Drugs other than those listed may also interact with Sodium-Glucose Co-Transporter 2 Inhibitor

Caution should be used in cats receiving other products or medications contain propylene glycol

Do not give any other prescription or over-the-counter drugs, including vitamins, minerals, herbal products, cold, allergy, pain medications without first talking to your veterinarian

If your pet experiences any unusual reactions when taking multiple medications, contact your veterinarian

What should I do if I know of or suspect there has been an overdose?

Contact your veterinarian immediately if your pet receives more than the prescribed amount.

What else should I know?

Have your pet wear an identification tag that indicates it is a diabetic. Perhaps include your veterinarian's name and phone number.

Never leave home without sugar or corn syrup. Liquid glucose packets can be bought at your pharmacy. Become very aware of your pet's 'normal' behavior in order to determine when something is wrong.

Notify your veterinarian immediately if you pet has a reduced interest in food, lack of energy, changes in activity (grooming, hiding), vomiting, diarrhea, weakness, difficulty standing or walking, or ketones in their urine.

As with all prescribed medicines, Sodium-Glucose Co-Transporter 2 Inhibitor should only be given to the cat for which it was prescribed.

This is just a summary of information about Sodium-Glucose Co-Transporter 2 Inhibitor. If you have any questions or concerns about Sodium-Glucose Co-Transporter 2 Inhibitor or diabetes, contact your veterinarian.