

Artificial Tears (Hydroxypropyl Methylcellulose) - Main

Artificial Tears (Hydroxypropyl Methylcellulose) - Drops (Cats)

Artificial Tears (Hydroxypropyl Methylcellulose) - Drops (Dogs)

Artificial Tears (Hydroxypropyl Methylcellulose) - Ointment (Cats)

Artificial Tears (Hydroxypropyl Methylcellulose) - Ointment (Dogs)

Trade Names:

Artificial tears, Optixcare® Eye Health

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:** This eye medication provides a protective barrier and is used to provide relief from irritation as well as to protect the surface of the eye when tear production is decreased. This medication is available in the form of drops or ointment.

**WHAT IS THIS PRODUCT?**

An artificial eye lubricant or tear solution

Used topically on the eye

Eye lubricants may be available without a prescription (OTC/over the counter) but should only be used under the supervision of your veterinarian

**REASONS FOR PRESCRIBING:** To provide moisture, protection, and lubrication to the eye surface. To assist in the treatment of keratoconjunctivitis sicca (dry eye)

**WHAT DOGS/CATS SHOULD NOT BE GIVEN THIS MEDICATION?**

Animals with a known hypersensitivity or allergy to this drug should not use 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.

The length of use, frequency of administration and expected improvement is dependent upon your pet's diagnosis, clinical response and initial reason for use.

If your pet requires more than one medication in the same eye, administer the medications 5 minutes apart. If your pet requires more than one medication, discuss with your veterinarian if it is preferable to administer drops before ointments.

This product will take effect quickly and improvement in clinical signs should follow.

If you are having difficulty applying the medication, contact your veterinarian

Call ahead for refills.

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

Administration of eye drops

Wash your hands before applying any eye medication

Check label directions and shake bottle if necessary

Remove excess discharge from around the eye with a moistened cloth

Remove the cap and avoid contaminating the tip of the medication bottle with the environment or your fingers

Tilt your pet's head back so that they are looking up towards the ceiling

Gently hold the eyelids open and with the other hand holding the medication bottle, rest your hand above the eye

Be sure that the tip of the medication bottle is not pointed towards the eye in case of any sudden movements

Ensure that the tip of the medication bottle does not touch your pet's eye, eyelids or lashes

Apply the correct number of drops into the eye

Continue to hold your pet's head up and allow them to blink to distribute the drops over the entire eye

Place the cap back on the medication bottle and avoid contaminating the inside of the cap with your fingers

Wash your hands after applying any eye medication

Always praise and reward your pet to encourage cooperation

#### WHAT IF A DOSE IS MISSED?

If a dose is missed, give it as soon as you can. If it is time already for the next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to the normal schedule. Do not give two doses at the same time.

#### WHAT TO TELL/ASK YOUR VETERINARIAN BEFORE GIVING THIS MEDICATION?

Talk to your veterinarian about:

When your pet will need to be rechecked

What tests may need to be performed prior to and during treatment with this eye medication

What are the risks and benefits of using this eye medication

Tell your veterinarian about:

If your pet has experienced previous eye problems

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 or kidney 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 medications can be given together.

If your pet is pregnant, nursing or if you plan to breed your pet

#### STORAGE AND WARNINGS:

Artificial Tears should be stored in a childproof container in a cool, dry place at room temperature away from heat and direct sunlight.

Do not use any eye drops that have become discolored, cloudy or have particles in them.

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:

If you notice anything else unusual, contact your veterinarian

This short-acting product should stop working in a couple of hours

#### CAN THIS DRUG BE GIVEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

Do not give new food or 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 you pet has accidentally ingested this medication or has received more than the prescribed amount.

#### WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW?

Notify your veterinarian if your animal's condition does not improve or worsens despite this treatment. It is important to periodically discuss your pet's response to Artificial Tears at regular checkups. Your veterinarian will best determine if your pet is responding as expected and if your pet should continue receiving Artificial Tears.

As with all prescribed medicines, Artificial Tears should only be given to the pet for which it was prescribed. It should be given only for the condition for which it was prescribed.

This is just a summary of information about Artificial Tears. If you have any questions or concerns about Artificial Tears or the condition for which it was prescribed, please contact your veterinarian.