

Diphenhydramine Hydrochloride - Main

Diphenhydramine Hydrochloride - Injectable Solution (Cats)

Diphenhydramine Hydrochloride - Injectable Solution (Dogs)

Diphenhydramine Hydrochloride - Oral Solution (Cats)

Diphenhydramine Hydrochloride - Oral Solution (Dogs)

Diphenhydramine Hydrochloride - Tablet (Cats)

Diphenhydramine Hydrochloride - Tablet (Dogs)

Trade Names:

PetArmor® Antihistamine Diphenhydramine HCl, SENTRY® Allergy Relief, Vetadryl® 10 mg Tablets, Vetadryl® 30 mg Tablets

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:** Diphenhydramine is an antihistamine that has been prescribed to your pet to treat an allergic reaction to drugs, or an environmental allergen, to help deal with insect stings, to prevent motion sickness or to be used as a sedative. There are several other uses for this medication. It is generally well-tolerated, but you can expect to see drowsiness. Available from your veterinarian as tablets, an oral solution or as an injection.

**WHAT IS THIS DRUG?**

A first-generation antihistamine

Given by mouth or as an injection given at your veterinarian's clinic

**REASONS FOR PRESCRIBING:**

Used for acute inflammatory and allergic conditions such as: snake bites, vaccination reactions, blood transfusion reactions, bee stings and insect bites, and the management of seasonal allergies, rashes, itchy skin

Used in the treatment of mast cell tumors

Useful in the treatment of motion sickness

Causes drowsiness, so may be used as a mild sedative

**WHAT DOGS/CATS SHOULD NOT TAKE THIS MEDICATION?**

Use with caution in pregnant or nursing pets

Use with caution in pets with heart disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), high blood pressure, hyperthyroidism, seizures, glaucoma, asthma, urinary or gastrointestinal obstruction or prostate disease

Use with caution in working dogs (military/police/seeing eye/hearing, etc.) as too much sedation may impede their ability to work and learn

If your pet has had an allergic reaction to Diphenhydramine or like products

**DIRECTIONS:**

The injectable formulation of Diphenhydramine is often given in the safety of a veterinary hospital with adequate patient monitoring and is rarely prescribed for use at home.

For oral formulations, 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.

Shake liquids before using and measure the dose carefully.

Baseline blood work may be recommended to assess your pet's general health before starting this medication. Periodic blood work may be recommended to monitor this medication's effects on the body. Dose adjustments may be made based upon these results and an assessment of how your dog or cat is responding clinically.

Discuss with your veterinarian if this medication is to be given with food. If your pet experiences digestive upset following medication administration, try offering with a small amount of food or a treat.

If sustained release capsules are used, contents should not be crushed or allowed to dissolve before ingestion.

Do not give sinus or cold medications containing Diphenhydramine to your pet. They can be lethal to your pet.

This medication will take effect quickly, in about 1 to 2 hours. Improvement in clinical signs should follow.

Call ahead for refills.

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

#### 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 will your pet need to be rechecked

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

What are the risks and benefits of using this drug

Tell your veterinarian about:

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

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 or if you plan to breed your pet

#### STORAGE AND WARNINGS:

Some oral liquids contain alcohol. Do not use these formulations in your pet.

Store in a tight, light resistant, childproof container in a cool, dry place at room temperature away from heat and direct sunlight. Do not store in the bathroom as it is sensitive to moisture. Do not allow the liquids to freeze.

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:

Causes drowsiness. This effect lessens over time. Do not use in working dogs as it may cause too much sedation.

Can cause dry mouth, vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite and inability to urinate

Cats may experience hyperexcitability or agitation

Diphenhydramine tastes terrible. Getting cats to accept it can be quite a challenge.

This medication interferes with allergic skin testing. Check with your veterinary dermatologist when to discontinue Diphenhydramine in advance of allergy testing.

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 Diphenhydramine in conjunction with anesthetics, atropine, glycopyrrolate, barbiturates, monoamine oxidase inhibitors (amitraz, selegiline), narcotics and tricyclic antidepressants (amitriptyline, clomipramine)

Drugs other than those listed may also interact with Diphenhydramine

Human products containing antihistamines are often combined with pain relievers. These combination products should not be used in animals.

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 your pet receives 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.

As with all prescribed medicines, Diphenhydramine 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 Diphenhydramine. If you have any questions or concerns about Diphenhydramine or the condition for which it was prescribed, contact your veterinarian.