

Cyclosporine Ophthalmic - Main

Cyclosporine Ophthalmic - Drops (Cats)

Cyclosporine Ophthalmic - Drops (Dogs)

Cyclosporine Ophthalmic - Ointment (Cats)

Cyclosporine Ophthalmic - Ointment (Dogs)

Trade Names:

Optimmune®

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:** This drug is an eye medication that is used in dogs and cats to modify the immune system. It is available in the form of an ointment or drops.

**WHAT IS THIS DRUG?**

An immunosuppressant

**REASONS FOR PRESCRIBING:**

To treat chronic superficial keratitis (pannus)

To treat keratoconjunctivitis sicca (dry eye)

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

Animals that have corneal ulcers as Cyclosporine can delay healing

Animals that have fungal or viral infections as Cyclosporine can worsen or prolong the infection

Animals that are pediatric

Animals that may be pregnant or nursing

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.

Dose adjustments may be made based upon an assessment of how your dog or cat is responding clinically.

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.

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

The medical conditions that Cyclosporine treats are often a result of a chronic disease process. Therefore, it often requires time before improvements are seen and treatment is usually long term.

This medication should take effect within 1 to 2 days. You should see improvements in your pet's clinical signs.

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

Ensure 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

#### ADMINISTRATION OF EYE OINTMENTS:

Wash hands prior before applying any eye medication

Check label directions

Remove excess discharge from around the eye with a moistened cloth

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

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

Gently roll down the lower eyelid of the affected eye and while holding the medication tube, rest your hand above the eye

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

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

Holding the tube parallel to the eyelid, apply the correct amount of ointment along the inner edge of the lower lid

Gently hold the eyelids shut and massage to disperse the medication

Place the cap back on the medication tube 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 drug

What are the risks and benefits of using this drug

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:

Cyclosporine Ophthalmic 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 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:

This medication can cause mild eye irritation resulting in redness, blinking or rubbing

If these symptoms persist or you notice anything else unusual, contact your veterinarian

This moderate-acting medication should stop working in a few days, 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 Cyclosporine Ophthalmic in conjunction with: topical corticosteroids (e.g. dexamethasone, prednisone)

Drugs other than those listed may also interact with Cyclosporine Ophthalmic

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.

As with all prescribed medicines, Cyclosporine Ophthalmic 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.

Some animals do not respond well to the ointment form of the medication and require drops that can be made by a compounding pharmacy.

Never use skin or ear medications in the eye.

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