

Pentoxifylline - Main

Pentoxifylline - Tablet (Cats)

Pentoxifylline - Tablet (Dogs)

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Pentoxifylline is used to enhance healing and reduce inflammation in non-healing skin conditions. Blood flow is increased in areas that would not get enough blood. Tissues receive more oxygen and circulation is improved. Pentoxifylline tablets are available by prescription from your veterinarian.

WHAT IS THIS DRUG?

A synthetic xanthine derivative; a member of the methylxanthine class of drugs

Given by mouth

Reasons for prescribing:

To promote healing and decrease inflammation caused by skin ulcers (especially in Shelties and Collies)

To increase blood flow to areas not getting enough blood (i.e. improve microcirculation)

To treat allergic reactions caused by physical contact with an allergen (e.g. contact dermatitis)

WHAT DOGS/CATS SHOULD NOT TAKE THIS MEDICATION?

Safety in pregnant pets is unknown. Pentoxifylline enters mother's milk, so should not be used in nursing mothers.

Those with pre-existing seizure disorders

Pets with an increased bleeding tendency (including cerebral or retinal hemorrhage)

Use with caution in pets with GI ulcers, liver or kidney insufficiency

If your pet has had an allergic reaction to pentoxifylline, theophylline or other xanthines including aminophylline and caffeine

DIRECTIONS: Read and follow the label carefully. This medication should be given with food. Give the exact amount prescribed and only as often as directed.

Since the human medication may be too large for your pet to swallow, special capsules, medicated treats or a liquid may be compounded for your pet. If the medication is a liquid, measure the dose carefully.

Give this medication for as long as veterinarian directs. Do not skip doses or stop giving the medication without consulting your veterinarian.

Baseline blood work may be recommended to assess your pet's general health before starting this medication. Dose adjustments may be made based upon an assessment of how your dog or cat is responding clinically.

This medication can take a few weeks before full effects are obvious, but side effects can occur immediately. Gradual improvements are usually noticed after a few days.

Call ahead for refills.

Ideally, give the 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 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 side effects on other drugs/products

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 medicines can be given together.

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

STORAGE AND WARNINGS:

Store in a tight, light resistant, childproof container in a cool, dry place at room temperature away from heat and direct sunlight. Protect from freezing.

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:

Stomach upset (e.g. nausea, loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhea). These effects may be reduced if the dose is given with food.

Restlessness or caffeine-type jitters, dizziness, fast heartbeat and possible seizures at high doses

Seizures can occur in patients with prior seizure history

If your pet shows any of these symptoms, is especially restless or you notice anything else 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 with cimetidine, ciprofloxacin, enrofloxacin, NSAIDs, orbifloxacin, theophylline, warfarin and other anticoagulants

Drugs other than those listed may also interact with pentoxifylline

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, Pentoxifylline 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 Pentoxifylline. If you have any questions or concerns about Pentoxifylline or the condition it was prescribed for, contact your veterinarian.