

Vitamin B12 (Cyanocobalamin) Injection - Main

Vitamin B12 (Cyanocobalamin) Injection - Cats

Vitamin B12 (Cyanocobalamin) Injection - Dogs

Trade Names:

CoB12alequin® for Cats & Small Dogs (<22 lbs), CoB12alequin® for Dogs (22 lbs & Over), Cyanocobalamin 3000 mcg, Cyanocobalamin 5000 mcg, Vita-Jec® B12 1000 mcg Injection

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Vitamin B12 is also known as cyanocobalamin or cobalamin. It is a water-soluble vitamin involved in many enzymatic reactions required for normal cell growth and function. Inadequate absorption of this vitamin due to gastrointestinal disease or a diet lacking sufficient levels can lead to a Vitamin B12 deficiency. A genetic malabsorption syndrome has been reported in certain breeds of dogs which can lead to low levels of Vitamin B12. Inappropriate levels of Vitamin B12 can also indirectly contribute to a folate (Vitamin B9) deficiency. Vitamin B12 (Cyanocobalamin) Injection is a prescription medication and can only be obtained from a veterinarian. It is available in an injectable form.

WHAT IS THIS DRUG?

A water-soluble vitamin

Given by subcutaneous or intramuscular injections

REASONS FOR PRESCRIBING:

Dogs and cats suffering from stomach or intestinal conditions such as inflammatory bowel disease or exocrine pancreatic insufficiency which may lead to malabsorption of Vitamin B12. A deficiency in this vitamin can contribute to poor appetite, lethargy, diarrhea, weight loss, failure to thrive, and blood cell abnormalities.

WHAT DOGS/CATS SHOULD NOT TAKE THIS MEDICATION?

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

Give this medication for as long as your veterinarian directs. Several weeks of supplementation therapy may be required prior to improvements being noted. The duration of treatment is usually dependent upon the response to the medication and certain conditions may require lifelong treatment. Do not skip doses or stop giving the medication without consulting your veterinarian.

Baseline blood work is often required to assess your pet's general health and current cobalamin and folate levels may be needed prior to starting this medication. Periodic blood work to monitor this medication's effects on the body is also advised if long term therapy is necessary. Dose adjustments may be made based upon these results and an assessment of how your dog or cat is responding clinically.

Subcutaneous (under the skin) or intramuscular (into the muscle) injections may be easily administered in the comfort of your home if your pet requires this form of therapy. If you are advised to provide these injections to your pet at home, follow your veterinarian's directions carefully. Injections require certain materials and a skill set for safe delivery. Inappropriate injection and delivery technique or use of non-sterile materials can result in infections. If you are unsure how your pet will react to an injection, request assistance or demonstration by your veterinarian. Ensure that you dispose of empty medication vials, needles, and syringes into an appropriate container.

This supplement can take several days to have full effects within the body, but side effects can occur immediately. Visible improvements are not always evident with supplements.

Call ahead for refills.

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 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:

Vitamin B12 (Cyanocobalamin) Injection should be stored in a childproof container in a cool, dry place at room temperature away from heat and direct sunlight.

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:

All injectable medications have the potential to cause an immediate allergic or anaphylactic reaction. Affected animals may have a swelling, hives, changes in respiration and display signs of agitation. This can be a severe and life-threatening reaction, immediate treatment with epinephrine is often required.

This medication is usually well tolerated and adverse reactions are uncommon at recommended doses

If you notice anything else unusual, contact your veterinarian

This supplement 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?

No significant drug interactions are known

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, Vitamin B12 (Cyanocobalamin) Injection 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 Vitamin B12 (Cyanocobalamin) Injection. If you have any questions or concerns about it or the condition it was prescribed for, please contact your veterinarian.