



Medicine series

Practice details

Kaolin

- Keep this leaflet safe, as you may need to refer to it again.
- Please ask your vet or veterinary nurse if you have any further questions.
- This medicine has been prescribed for your pet ONLY. Do not take it yourself or give it to another person or any other animal; it may harm them even if their symptoms appear to be the same.

The medicine you have been given for your dog or cat is called kaolin. It may have a trade name such as Kaogel™ VP or Pro-kolin, but often will just be called kaolin.

What is kaolin?

Kaolin is used to help treat diarrhoea of non-specific origin.

Why has my pet been prescribed kaolin?

Kaolin can be a useful treatment in dogs and cats with diarrhoea. It is an adsorbent antidiarrhoeal agent. It also has some possible antisecretory effects by helping to protect the lining of the intestine. It can increase faecal bulk, resulting in firmer and less frequent stools.

How should I store kaolin?

Do not store kaolin above 25°C. For safety, **all medicines should be kept out of the reach and sight of children.**

How do I give kaolin oral suspension to my pet?

Kaolin can be placed carefully on the back of your pet's tongue and their mouth held closed until the entire dose has been swallowed. Alternatively, you can try to disguise it in a small quantity of strongly flavoured food that your pet likes.

How long will my pet need to take kaolin?

Your vet will advise you on the length of time for which you will need to give this medicine. This may vary between patients.

What should I do if I run out of the oral suspension?

Your vet should make sure you have enough kaolin to last as long as required for the course of medication. If you do run out sooner than expected, contact your own vet for further advice.

What should I do if I miss a dose?

If a dose is missed, just give the next dose at the normal time. **DO NOT** give a double dose to make up for the missed dose and do not exceed the total stated dose in any one 24-hour period.

What should I do if my pet is accidentally given too many doses?

One extra dose is unlikely to harm your pet. However, if a larger overdose is given, contact your vet as soon as possible.

Can my pet take kaolin if I am already giving them other drugs?

Tell your vet if you are giving your pet any other medications, even if you think they already know. This includes herbal or off-the-shelf remedies from a pet shop, pharmacy or health store. Some antibiotics such as lincomycin, trimethoprim and sulphonamides are affected by kaolin and dose adjustments may be needed if used together.

What are the possible side effects of kaolin for my pet?

Kaolin is not known to have any side effects. If your pet shows any unusual symptoms whilst taking this medication, please contact your vet.

What should I do if my pet is unwell while taking kaolin?

If your pet becomes unwell while receiving this medication, you should not give any further doses and should contact your vet as soon as possible for advice.

What should I do if a person accidentally takes this drug?

If a person accidentally takes your pet's medicine, the person should be taken to the local hospital **immediately**. Take this leaflet and any remaining solution plus the container (even if it is empty) with you.

Whom do I contact if I want to know more?

If you have any questions about this drug or concerns about your pet's health, contact your own vet. They will know about your pet's medical history and will know about kaolin.

The Prescribing Cascade

This medicine is authorized for use in human patients and is used by vets under the 'prescribing cascade'. The medicine is not authorized by the Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD), an executive agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), for use in dogs/cats/pets. Your vet can explain the 'prescribing cascade' in further detail to you and also explain why they are prescribing this drug for your pet. You will be asked to sign a consent form stating that you understand the reasons that the drug is being prescribed and its possible complications, before the treatment is issued.

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