

Metoclopramide

- 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 metoclopramide. It may have a trade name such as Maxolon, but often will just be called metoclopramide.

What is metoclopramide?

Metoclopramide belongs to a group of drugs that promote gastrointestinal motility. It also reduces vomiting. These drugs are mainly used to treat vomiting or conditions where the gastrointestinal motility is abnormal.

Why has my pet been prescribed metoclopramide?

Vets use metoclopramide most commonly to manage vomiting and poor gastrointestinal motility.

How should I store metoclopramide?

Metoclopramide tablets should be kept in tight, light-resistant containers at room temperature. For safety, **all medicines should be kept out of the reach and sight of children.**

How do I give metoclopramide tablets to my pet?

The medication should be given by mouth. Try to disguise them in a small quantity of strongly flavoured food that your pet likes. Alternatively, the tablets or capsules can be placed carefully on the back of your pet's tongue and their mouth held closed until the entire dose has been swallowed.

How long will my pet need to take metoclopramide?

Your vet will tell you how long you need to administer metoclopramide for. This can be given for the short or long term.

What should I do if I run out of tablets?

If you run out of medication, you should contact your vet, who has a good understanding of your pet's conditions and the reasons for prescribing metoclopramide.

What should I do if I miss a dose?

If you miss a dose you can either give the dose straight away and re-establish the correct dosing intervals or wait until the next dose is due. **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?

Contact your vet immediately for advice. Overdoses can cause agitation, uncoordinated walking, tremors and vocalization; these effects are usually transient and disappear when treatment is stopped.

Can my pet take metoclopramide if I am already giving them other medications?

Tell your vet if you are giving your pet other medications. This includes herbal or off-the-shelf remedies from a pet shop or pharmacy. The effects of metoclopramide may decrease (e.g. cimetidine, digoxin) or increase (e.g. oxytetracycline) drug absorption. The neurological effects of metoclopramide may be enhanced by some narcotic analgesics or sedatives.

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

Metoclopramide can cause agitation, uncoordinated walking, tremors and vocalization. Diarrhoea is another possible side effect. Other side effects are uncommon.

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

If your pet is unwell while receiving medication, you should stop the medication and contact your vet as soon as possible.

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

If a person accidentally takes the medication, you should go to a local hospital or contact a local doctor **immediately**. Take this leaflet and any remaining tablets or capsules plus their 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 your pet's medical history and further information on metoclopramide.

The Prescribing Cascade

This medicine is authorized for use in human patients and certain forms are authorized for use in pets for certain conditions. It is also used by vets under the 'prescribing cascade'. 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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