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PRESCRIPTION ANIMAL REMEDY
KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN
FOR ANIMAL TREATMENT ONLY

Metacam®

anti-inflammatory oral suspension for dogs

Boehringer Ingelheim

Composition
Each mL contains 1.5 mg meloxicam; one drop contains 0.05 mg meloxicam.

Action
Meloxicam is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory compound of the oxicam group which acts by inhibition of prostaglandin synthesis. Meloxicam exerts anti-inflammatory, antiexudative, analgesic and antipyretic effects. It inhibits leukocyte infiltration into the inflamed tissue and prevents bone and cartilage destruction. To a minor extent it also inhibits collagen induced thrombocyte aggregation.
In vitro and *in vivo* studies demonstrated that meloxicam inhibits cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2) to a greater extent than cyclooxygenase-1 (COX-1).

Indication
Metacam Oral Suspension is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) for use in dogs. It is indicated for the alleviation of inflammation and pain in both acute and chronic musculoskeletal disorders such as discospondylosis, arthropathy and soft tissue injuries.

Directions for Use
Do not administer to pregnant or lactating bitches in the last third of pregnancy.
As for all NSAIDs use in any animal less than 6 weeks of age or in debilitated aged animals may involve additional risk. If use in such animals cannot be avoided careful clinical management may be required.

SHAKE WELL BEFORE USE.

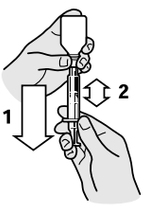
Method and route of administration
To be administered orally. Either mix with a small amount of food, then, once eaten, follow with the remainder of normal ration, or administer directly into the mouth.

Dosage
On the first day of treatment a single dose of 0.2 mg/kg bodyweight should be given. Treatment is to be continued once daily by oral administration (at 24 hour intervals) at maintenance dose of 0.1 mg/kg bodyweight.

For longer term treatment, once clinical response has been observed (after ≥ 4 days), the dose of Metacam can be adjusted to the lowest effective individual dose reflecting that the degree of pain and inflammation associated with chronic musculoskeletal disorders may vary over time. Should longer term treatment be contemplated, the prescribing veterinarian should observe current best practice including, but not limited to, regular monitoring of relevant clinical and biochemical parameters.

Advice on correct administration
Particular care should be given with regard to the accuracy of dosing. The suspension can be given using either the drop dispenser (for very small breeds) – which provides 0.05 mg meloxicam per drop or the measuring syringe provided in the package. The syringe fits on to the bottle and has a kg-bodyweight scale designed for the maintenance dose (i.e. 0.1 mg/kg bodyweight)
Thus twice the volume should be administered on the first day as the initial dose.

Shake bottle hard. Unscrew bottle top and attach the dosing syringe to the bottle by gently pushing the end onto the top of the bottle. Do not force the syringe onto the bottle as this makes it difficult to remove.



Turn the bottle/syringe upside down. Pull the plunger out until the black line on the plunger corresponds to your dog's bodyweight in kilograms.

Turn the bottle right way up and with a twisting movement gently separate the dosing syringe from the bottle.

By pushing the plunger in gently empty the contents of the syringe onto the food.

Initial dose 0.2 mg/kg bodyweight:
4 drops/kg or 2 maintenance dosage volumes (measuring syringe).
Maintenance dose 0.1 mg/kg bodyweight:
2 drops/kg or 1 maintenance dosage volume (measuring syringe).
If no improvement is noticeable after 10 days of treatment, please consult a veterinary surgeon.

Contraindications
The use of the product is contraindicated in animals suffering from cardiac, hepatic or clinical renal disease. This is also the case where there is the possibility of gastrointestinal ulceration or bleeding, or where there is evidence of a haemorrhagic disorder or individual hypersensitivity to the product.

Interactions
Metacam Oral Suspension should not be administered concurrently with steroidal or other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, aminoglycoside antibiotics or anti-coagulant agents. Pre-treatment with anti-inflammatory drugs may result in additional or increased adverse effects and accordingly a treatment-free period with such drugs should be observed for at least 24 hours before commencement with Metacam Oral Suspension. The treatment-free period, however, should take into account the pharmacokinetic properties of the drugs used previously.

Side Effects
Typical adverse reactions of NSAIDs may occur (particularly within the first week of treatment). These may include loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhoea, faecal occult blood and lethargy. In very rare cases haemorrhagic diarrhoea, haematemesis, gastrointestinal ulceration and elevated liver enzymes have been reported. These side effects are in most cases transient and disappear following termination of treatment but in very rare cases may be serious. If side effects are persistent or of severity, treatment should be discontinued and the advice of the veterinarian should be sought.

Overdose
In case of overdosing a symptomatic treatment should be initiated.

First Aid
If poisoning occurs, contact a doctor or Poisons Information Centre. *Phone Australia 131126; New Zealand 0800 764 766 (0800 POISON).*

Disposal
Dispose of empty container by wrapping with paper and putting in garbage.

Storage
Store below 25°C (air conditioning)
Discard 6 months after initial use when stored below 25°C (air conditioning)

Presentation
Plastic squeeze dropper bottle containing either 10 mL, 32 mL, 100 mL or 180 mL. A measuring syringe is also provided in the pack.

Australia
Boehringer Ingelheim Pty Limited
Animal Health Division
78 Waterloo Road
North Ryde NSW 2113
APVMA 49655/45956

New Zealand
Boehringer Ingelheim (NZ) Limited
Level 1, Unit 9
42 Ormiston Road
East Tamaki, Auckland

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