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

Vetmedin®

Boehringer Ingelheim

1.25 mg CHEWABLE TABLETS FOR DOGS
2.5 mg CHEWABLE TABLETS FOR DOGS
5 mg CHEWABLE TABLETS FOR DOGS
10 mg CHEWABLE TABLETS FOR DOGS

Active Constituent:
1.25mg tablet contains 1.25mg pimobendan
2.5mg tablet contains 2.5mg pimobendan
5mg tablet contains 5mg pimobendan
10mg tablet contains 10mg pimobendan

Indications
Vetmedin® Chewable Tablets are indicated for:
The treatment of canine congestive heart failure (CHF) originating from dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM) or valvular insufficiency (mitral and/or tricuspid regurgitation).
The treatment of preclinical DCM in large breed dogs. When used in cases of preclinical DCM in large breed dogs, pimobendan significantly prolonged the time to the onset of CHF or sudden death, and also resulted in prolongation of the time to death due to all causes.
Doberman Pinscher dogs with preclinical DCM treated with pimobendan also demonstrated a significant reduction in Left Ventricular Internal Diameter in both systole and diastole (LVIDs/d) in response to therapy.

DIRECTIONS FOR USE

Contraindications
This product is contraindicated for use in cases of hypertrophic cardiomyopathies or clinical conditions where an augmentation of cardiac output is not recommended for functional or anatomical reasons (e.g. aortic stenosis).

Precautions
Vetmedin® Chewable Tablets should only be administered to pregnant and lactating bitches if the expected therapeutic benefits overweigh the potential risk.
Studies into the effect of pimobendan on the reproductive function of male dogs have not been conducted.
The use in dogs not showing signs of cardiac disease is not recommended.
In pharmacological studies no interaction between the cardiac glycoside ouabain and pimobendan was detected. The pimobendan induced increase in contractility of the heart is attenuated in the presence of the calcium antagonist verapamil and the B-antagonist propranolol.

Side-effects
A moderate positive chronotropic effect and vomiting may occur in rare cases. However, these effects are dose-dependent and can be avoided by reducing the dose in those cases. In rare cases transient diarrhoea, anorexia or lethargy have been observed.

Dosage and Administration
Vetmedin® Chewable Tablets should be administered orally at a dose range of 0.1 - 0.3 mg pimobendan/kg bodyweight twice daily. The ideal dose is 0.25 mg pimobendan/kg bodyweight twice daily administered 12 hours apart. Each dose should be given on an empty stomach, and at least one hour before feeding.

Body-weight (kg)	No. of tablets per administration – Morning			
	1.25 mg	2.5 mg	5mg	10 mg
2-5	½	-	-	-
> 5-10	1	-	-	-
> 10-20	-	1	or ½	-
> 20-40	-	-	1	or ½
> 40-60	-	-	2	or 1
> 60-80	-	-	3	or 1½
> 80	-	-	4	or 2

Body-weight (kg)	No. of tablets per administration – Evening			
	1.25 mg	2.5 mg	5mg	10 mg
2-5	½	-	-	-
> 5-10	1	-	-	-
> 10-20	-	1	or ½	-
> 20-40	-	-	1	or ½
> 40-60	-	-	2	or 1
> 60-80	-	-	3	or 1½
> 80	-	-	4	or 2

General directions
Pimobendan, a benzimidazole-pyridazinone derivative, is a non-sympathomimentic, non-glycoside inotropic substance with potent vasodilatative properties.
1.25 mg beef flavoured palatable chewable tablet contains 1.25 mg pimobendan
2.5 mg beef flavoured palatable chewable tablet contains 2.5 mg pimobendan
5 mg beef flavoured palatable chewable tablet contains 5 mg pimobendan
10 mg beef flavoured palatable chewable tablet contains 10 mg pimobendan
Vetmedin® chewable tablets may be combined with a diuretic treatment such as furosemide.
In the case of overdosing, symptomatic treatment should be initiated.

Action
Pimobendan exerts its stimulatory myocardial effect by a dual mechanism of action: increase in calcium sensitivity of cardiac myofilaments and inhibition of phosphodiesterase (type III). It also exhibits a vasodilating action through an inhibitory action on phosphodiesterase III activity. Following oral administration of pimobendan the absolute bioavailability of the active principle is 60-63%. The mean plasma protein binding is 93%.
The plasma elimination half-life of pimobendan is approximately 30 minutes and the main active metabolite elimination half-life is approximately 2 hours. Almost the entire dose is eliminated via faeces.

Use during pregnancy and lactation
In studies with rats and rabbits pimobendan had no effect on fertility and embryotoxic effects only occurred at maternotoxic doses. In rat experiments it has been shown that pimobendan is excreted in milk.

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).
Keep the container tightly closed.

Presentation
White high density polyethylene screw-necked bottle with polypropylene child-resistant closure containing 50 beef flavoured palatable tablets.

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Restricted Veterinary Medicine.
No. A9699
No. A9700
No. A9701
No. A10988
See www.foodsafety.govt.nz for registration