**Composition**
Clear colourless solution for injection containing 0.75 mg pimobendan per mL. Pimobendan, a benzimidazole-pyridazinone derivative, is a non-sympathomimetic, non-glycoside inotropic substance with potent vasodilative properties.

**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 intravenous administration, the plasma elimination half-life of pimobendan is 0.4 ± 0.1 hours, consistent with the high clearance of 90 ± 19 mL/min/kg and a short mean residence time of 0.5 ± 0.1 hours.
The main active metabolite is eliminated with plasma elimination half-life of 2.0 ± 0.3 hours. Almost the entire dose is eliminated via faeces.

**Indications**
To initiate treatment of congestive heart failure originating from dilated cardiomyopathy or valvular insufficiency (mitral and/or tricuspid regurgitation) in dogs.

**DIRECTIONS FOR USE**

**Contraindications**
Contraindicated for use in animals with hypertrophic cardiomyopathies or clinical conditions where an augmentation of cardiac output is not possible for functional or anatomical reasons (e.g. aortic stenosis).
Contraindicated for use in dogs not showing signs of cardiac disease.

**Precautions**
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 into the milk.
Vetmedin® Injectable Solution for Dogs should only be administered to pregnant and lactating bitches if the expected therapeutic benefits outweigh the potential risk.
Studies into the effect of pimobendan on the reproductive function of male dogs have not been conducted.

**Side Effects**
A moderate positive chronotropic effect and vomiting may occur in rare cases. In rare cases transient diarrhoea, anorexia or lethargy have
been observed.

In the event of accidental subcutaneous injection, temporary swelling and mild resorptive inflammatory reactions may occur at or below the injection site.

Interactions

In pharmacological studies no interaction between 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 β-antagonist propranolol.

Dosage and Administration

Single use only. Use immediately after opening. Discard the unused portion of the product immediately after use.

Single intravenous injection at a dosage of 0.15 mg pimobendan/kg bodyweight (i.e. 2 mL/10 kg bodyweight).

Vetmedin® Chewable Tablets or Capsules for Dogs may be used for continuation of treatment at a recommended dosage of 0.25 mg/kg twice daily, to be started 12 hours after administration of the injection.

A 5 mL vial and a 10 mL vial can treat up to a 25 kg and 50 kg bodyweight dog respectively.

Overdose

In case of overdosing 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). Do not freeze.

Presentation

5 mL and 10 mL single use vials.

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Australia:
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NEW ZEALAND INFORMATION

RESTRICTED VETERINARY MEDICINE

ACVM Registration No. A10757

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