

Methocarbamol

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

What is methocarbamol?

Methocarbamol is a muscle relaxant and sedative.

Why has my pet been prescribed methocarbamol?

Vets use methocarbamol most commonly to manage muscle spasms, often associated with tetanus.

How should I store methocarbamol?

Methocarbamol has no special storage requirements. For safety, *all medicines should be kept out of the reach and sight of children.*

How do I give methocarbamol tablets to my pet?

The medication should be given by mouth. The tablets may be disguised in a small amount of strongly flavoured food that your pet likes. Alternatively, they can be placed carefully on the back of your pet's tongue and their mouth closed until the entire dose has been swallowed.

How long will my pet need to take methocarbamol?

Your vet will tell you how long you need to administer methocarbamol for. Usually, this medication is used to provide short-term relief for muscle spasms.

What should I do if I run out of methocarbamol?

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 methocarbamol.

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. An overdose may cause profound neurological depression.

Can my pet take methocarbamol 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, pharmacy or health store.

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

Methocarbamol can cause salivation, vomiting, lethargy, weakness and incoordination.

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

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 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 methocarbamol.

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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