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ARTIFICIAL TEARS (HYDROXYPROPYL METHYLCELLULOSE) - *Full Version*

CPN: 63003577

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

This eye medication provides a protective barrier on the surface of the eye when tear production is decreased. It can improve surface lubrication and help support ocular hydration. This medication is available in the form of a gel, drops and ointment.

WHAT IS THIS PRODUCT?

- A hydrating artificial eye lubricant
- Often contains hyaluronic acid and a combination of other ingredients that work together to improve tear film, reduce irritation and promote comfort
- Eye lubricants may be available without a prescription (OTC/over the counter) but should only be used under the supervision of your veterinarian

REASONS FOR PRESCRIBING:

- To provide protection and lubrication
- To promote and maintain eye comfort
- Often used to assist in the treatment of keratoconjunctivitis sicca (dry eye)

ANIMAL PRECAUTIONS:

- Animals with a known hypersensitivity or allergy to this or related products should not be given this medication

DIRECTIONS:

Read and follow the prescription label carefully.

Give the exact amount prescribed and only as often as directed.

Give this medication for as long as your veterinarian directs. Do not skip doses or stop giving the medication without consulting your veterinarian. Missed doses reduce the effectiveness of therapy.

The length of use, frequency of administration and expected improvement is dependent upon your pet's diagnosis, clinical response and initial reason for use.

Dose adjustments may be made based upon an assessment of how your cat or dog is responding clinically.

If your pet requires more than one medication in the same eye, administer the medications 5 minutes apart. If your pet requires more than one medication, discuss with your veterinarian if it is preferable to administer drops before ointments.

This product will take effect quickly and improvement in clinical signs should follow.

If you are having difficulty applying the medication, contact your veterinarian

Call ahead for refills.

Ideally, give this medication at the same time(s) daily.

ADMINISTRATION OF EYE DROPS:

- Wash your hands before applying any eye medication
- Check label directions and shake bottle if necessary
- Remove excess discharge from around the eye with a moistened cloth
- Remove the cap and avoid contaminating the tip of the medication bottle with the environment or your fingers
- Tilt your pet's head back so that they are looking up towards the ceiling
- Gently hold the eyelids open and with the other hand holding the medication bottle, rest your hand above the eye
- Be sure that the tip of the medication bottle is not pointed towards the eye in case of any sudden movements
- Ensure that the tip of the medication bottle does not touch your pet's eye, eyelids or lashes
- Apply the correct amount of drops into the eye
- Continue to hold your pet's head up and allow them to blink to distribute the drops over the entire eye
- Place the cap back on the medication bottle and avoid contaminating the inside of the cap with your fingers
- Wash your hands after applying any eye medication
- Always praise and reward your pet to encourage cooperation

ADMINISTRATION OF EYE OINTMENTS:

- Wash hands before applying any eye medication
- Check label directions
- Remove excess discharge from around the eye with a moistened cloth

- Remove the cap and avoid contaminating the tip of the medication tube with the environment or your fingers
- Tilt your pet's head back so that they are looking up towards the ceiling
- Gently roll down the lower eyelid of the affected eye and while holding the medication tube, rest your hand above the eye
- Be sure that the tip of the medication tube is not pointed towards the eye in case of any sudden movements
- Ensure that the tip of the medication tube does not touch your pet's eye, eyelids, or lashes
- Holding the tube parallel to the eyelid, apply the correct amount of ointment along the inner edge of the lower lid
- Gently hold the eyelids shut and massage to disperse the medication
- Place the cap back on the medication tube and avoid contaminating the inside of the cap with your fingers
- Wash your hands after applying any eye medication
- Always praise and reward your pet to encourage cooperation

WHAT IF A DOSE IS MISSED?

If a dose is missed, give it as soon as you can. If it is time already for the next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to the normal schedule. Do not give two doses at the same time.

WHAT TO TELL/ASK YOUR VETERINARIAN BEFORE GIVING THIS MEDICATION?

Talk to your veterinarian about:

- When your pet will need to be rechecked
- What tests may need to be performed prior to and during treatment with this eye medication
- What are the risks and benefits of using this eye medication

Tell your veterinarian about:

- If your pet has experienced previous eye problems
- If your pet has experienced side effects on other drugs/products
- If your pet has experienced digestive upset now or ever
- If your pet has experienced liver or kidney disease now or ever
- If your pet has experienced any other medical problems or allergies now or ever
- All medicines and supplements that you are giving your pet or plan to give your pet, including those you can get without a prescription. Your veterinarian may want to check that all of your pet's medications can be given together.
- If your pet is pregnant, nursing or if you plan to breed your pet

STORAGE AND WARNINGS:

Artificial Tears should be stored in a childproof container in a cool, dry place at room temperature away from heat and direct sunlight.

Keep this and all medication out of reach of children and pets.

Call your physician immediately if you accidentally take this product.

POTENTIAL SIDE EFFECTS:

- If you notice anything else unusual, contact your veterinarian
- This short-acting product should stop working in a couple of hours

CAN THIS DRUG BE GIVEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

- Do not give new food or medications without first talking to your veterinarian
- If your pet experiences any unusual reactions when taking multiple medications, contact your veterinarian

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I KNOW OF OR SUSPECT THERE HAS BEEN AN OVERDOSE?

Contact your veterinarian immediately if your pet has accidentally ingested this medication or has received more than the prescribed amount.

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW?

Notify your veterinarian if your animal's condition does not improve or worsens despite this treatment. It is important to periodically discuss your pet's response to **Artificial Tears** at regular checkups. Your veterinarian will best determine if your pet is responding as expected and if your pet should continue receiving **Artificial Tears**.

As with all prescribed medicines, **Artificial Tears** should only be given to the pet for which it was prescribed. It should be given only for the condition for which it was prescribed, at the prescribed dose, as directed by your veterinarian.

This is just a summary of information about **Artificial Tears**. If you have any questions or concerns about **Artificial Tears** or the condition for which it was prescribed, please contact your veterinarian.

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