

DVMetrics Client Information Sheets for Veterinary Medications



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FLUCONAZOLE - *Full Version*

CPN: 63000424

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Fluconazole is an oral antifungal agent used to treat fungal infections in dogs and cats (e.g. urinary, ringworm, central nervous system infections). This medication is available by prescription from your licensed veterinarian in different strengths as an oral suspension or as a tablet.

WHAT IS THIS DRUG?

- Antifungal
- Given by mouth

REASONS FOR PRESCRIBING:

- Treatment of fungal infections that are widespread, internal (central nervous system, urinary tract), or superficial skin infections (yeast infections and ringworm)
- Fewer side effects than other antifungal agents, although expensive

ANIMAL PRECAUTIONS:

- This medication is used off-label in cats and dogs and should be administered only when and as prescribed by a licensed veterinarian
- **Use of this medication in any other species should be in consultation with a veterinarian**
- Use of this prescribed medication in animals with any of the following conditions should be limited to those who are under the supervision of a veterinarian:
 - Poor kidney function
 - Liver disease
- Safety has not been established in:
 - Pregnant or nursing animals
- 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.

Baseline blood work may be recommended to assess your pet's general health before starting this medication. As long-term therapy is often required, periodic blood work may be recommended to monitor this medication's effects on the body. Dose adjustments may be made based upon these results and an assessment of how your dog or cat is responding clinically.

Discuss with your veterinarian if this medication is to be given with food. If your pet experiences digestive upset following medication administration, try offering with a small amount of food or a treat.

This medication should take effect within 1 to 2 days. You should see improvements in your pet's clinical signs. It may take one or two weeks before effects of the medication are noted.

Call ahead for refills. Long-term therapy (a few weeks to months) is usually necessary for successful results.

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

WHAT IF 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 will your pet need to be rechecked
- What tests may need to be performed prior to and during treatment with this drug
- What are the safety concerns when using this product in different species
- Risks and benefits of using this drug

Tell your veterinarian about:

- 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 medicines can be given together.
- If your pet is pregnant or nursing or if you plan to breed your pet

STORAGE AND WARNINGS:

Store in a tight, light resistant, childproof container in a cool, dry place at room temperature away from heat.

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:

- Decrease in appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, liver toxicity (jaundice - yellowing of gums, skin or eyes). If these symptoms are experienced, stop medication and have your veterinarian check the liver enzymes.
- Kidney failure
- Depression, fatigue, pale gums (possible anemia)
- Skin rash
- If you notice anything unusual, contact your veterinarian
- This moderate-acting medication should stop working in a few days, although effects may last longer in pets with liver or kidney disease

CAN THIS DRUG BE GIVEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

- Yes, but possible interactions may occur when giving **Fluconazole** in conjunction with aminophylline, amphotericin B, benzodiazepines, buspirone, cimetidine, cisapride, colchicine, corticosteroids, cyclosporine, diuretics, fentanyl, losartan, macrolide antibiotics (erythromycin, clarithromycin), methadone, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatories (NSAIDs), quinidine, rifampin, sildenafil, theophylline, tricyclic antidepressants (clomipramine, amitriptyline), oral antidiabetic agents (glipizide, glyburide), rifampin, vincristine, vinblastine and warfarin (or other blood thinners).
- Drugs other than those listed may also interact with **Fluconazole**
- 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 eats 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.

As with all prescribed medicines, **Fluconazole** should only be given to the dog/cat 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 **Fluconazole**. If you have any questions or concerns about **Fluconazole** or for the condition it was prescribed, contact your veterinarian.

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