

DVMetrics Client Information Sheets for Veterinary Medications



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GENTAMICIN OPHTHALMIC - *Full Version*

CPN: 63003283

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

This drug is an eye medication that is used in dogs and cats primarily to treat bacterial infections. This medication is available by prescription from a licensed veterinarian as drops as well as an ointment.

WHAT IS THIS DRUG?

- An aminoglycoside antibiotic

REASONS FOR PRESCRIBING:

- To treat or prevent bacterial infections of the eye, conjunctiva and eyelids

ANIMAL PRECAUTIONS:

- This medication is labeled for use 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**
- 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.

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.

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

This medication will take effect quickly, in about 1 to 2 hours, but its effects may not be visibly noticeable for a few days.

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 drug
- What are the safety concerns when using this product in different species
- What are the risks and benefits of using this drug

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:

Gentamicin Ophthalmic 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:

- This medication may cause the eye to sting for a short period after application
- This medication can cause hypersensitivity reactions resulting in marked redness and swelling of the tissues surrounding the eye
- This medication can cause the pupil to dilate resulting in sensitivity to light
- Prolonged use of any antibiotic may lead to the development of bacterial resistance and overgrowth of other organisms
- If these symptoms persist or you notice anything else unusual, contact your veterinarian
- This short-acting medication should stop working within 24 hours, although effects may last longer in pets with liver or kidney disease

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.

As with all prescribed medicines, **Gentamicin Ophthalmic** 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.

Never use skin or ear medications in the eye.

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

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