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## HALOPERIDOL - *Full Version*

**CPN:** 63010542

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

This is a behavior modifying medication. Behavior issues in cats and dogs are a common problem that are challenging for many owners. Some behavior disorders are simply frustrating while others can be unacceptable or potentially dangerous. Often, medications are utilized to assist with training and behavior modification is encouraged. **Haloperidol** is available as an injectable solution (for use in a veterinary clinic) and by prescription from a licensed veterinarian in the form of a tablet and an oral solution.

### WHAT IS THIS DRUG?

- A neuroleptic drug or high potency antipsychotic drug that blocks dopamine receptors
- Given by mouth or by injection

### REASONS FOR PRESCRIBING:

- May be used as a sedative and to assist with management of behavior-related issues
- Often used for feather picking and self-mutilation in avian species

### 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:
  - Seizure disorders
  - Aggressive animals
  - Older and debilitated animals
- Safety has not been established in:
  - Pregnant or nursing animals

- There is limited experience using **Haloperidol** in veterinary medicine
- Animals with a known hypersensitivity or allergy to this or related products should not be given this medication

## DIRECTIONS:

The injectable formulation of this medication is only given in the safety of a veterinary hospital with adequate patient monitoring and is rarely prescribed for use at home.

For oral formulations, read and follow the prescription label carefully.

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

Discuss with your veterinarian if this medication is to be given with food.

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. Periodic blood work to monitor its effects on the body may be advised if long term therapy is necessary. Dose adjustments may be made based upon these results and an assessment of how your cat or dog is responding clinically.

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.

## 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 A VETERINARIAN BEFORE GIVING MEDICATION?

Talk to your veterinarian about:

- Recommendations regarding behavior modification
- 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 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:

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

This is not a controlled drug, but this medication still has the potential for abuse and should be kept in a safe and secure location.

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:

- There is limited information and experience using **Haloperidol** in veterinary medicine so all potential adverse effects are unknown at this time
- This medication may have stimulating effect on the central nervous system causing confusion and agitation
- If you notice any of these symptoms, anything unusual, or if your pet's condition worsens 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 DRUGS?

- Yes, but possible interactions may occur when giving multiple medications including other behavior drugs: monoamine oxidase inhibitors (selegiline), selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor antidepressants (fluoxetine, sertraline) and tricyclic antidepressants (amitriptyline, clomipramine)
- Drugs other than those listed may also interact with **Haloperidol**
- 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 receives 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, **Haloperidol** 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 **Haloperidol**. If you have any questions or concerns about this medication or for the condition it was prescribed, please contact your veterinarian.

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