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MELOXICAM ORAL - *Full Version*

CPN: 63000648

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Meloxicam is an oral nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) used in dogs to control pain and inflammation due to trauma, surgery, injuries and osteoarthritis (OA). While **Meloxicam** is not a cure for osteoarthritis, it can control the pain and inflammation of this debilitating disease and improve your pet's mobility. **Meloxicam** is available by prescription from your licensed veterinarian as an oral suspension, chewable tablet and also as a transmucosal oral spray.

WHAT IS THIS DRUG?

- **Meloxicam** is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID)
- Given by mouth

REASONS FOR PRESCRIBING:

- Commonly used to reduce pain and inflammation following surgery (e.g. for surgeries such as spays, ear procedures, dentistry or orthopedic repairs)
- Used to control pain and inflammation due to osteoarthritis in dogs [signs include limping or lameness, decreased activity or exercise (reluctance to stand, climb stairs, jump or run or difficulty in performing these activities), stiffness or decreased movement of joints]
- Your veterinarian may administer injectable **Meloxicam** in the clinic and recommend that you follow up with the oral formulation for several days at home.

ANIMAL PRECAUTIONS:

- This medication is labeled for use in dogs and should be administered only when and as prescribed by a veterinarian
- **Use of this medication in any other species should be in consultation with a veterinarian**

- Use of this medication in animals with any of the following conditions, should be limited to those who are under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian:
 - Liver or kidney disease
 - Active gastrointestinal disease such as inflammatory bowel disease or ulcerations
 - History of heart disease or low blood pressure such as during general or inhalant anesthesia
 - Bleeding disorders (e.g., von Willebrand's disease or thrombocytopenia) or animals that require future surgery
- Safety has not been established in:
 - Pediatric patients (dogs less than 6 months of age) or geriatric patients with pre-existing chronic disease
 - Breeding, pregnant or nursing animals
- Animals with a known hypersensitivity or allergy to this drug or other NSAIDs should not be given this medication

DIRECTIONS:

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

Give the exact amount prescribed and only as often as directed. This medication should 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.

Baseline blood work and urinalysis is often recommended to assess your pet's general health before starting this drug. Periodic blood work and urinalysis will be required to monitor this medication's effects on the body.

Dose adjustments or changes to the dosage schedule may be made based upon these results and an assessment of how your dog is responding clinically.

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

You will need a current weight of your pet and particular care should be given with regard to the accuracy of dosing. Oral suspensions require shaking prior to dose measurements.

There are various concentrations and different dosing syringes available for **Meloxicam**. Use the correct dosing syringe for your dog's weight to ensure accuracy.

The smallest syringe cannot be used to measure doses for dogs weighing less than 2 lb (0.9 kg). Suspensions are often given to small pets using a drop dispenser bottle. To prevent accidental overdosing of small pets, administer drops on food only, never directly into the mouth. Carefully measure suspension onto food to assure that the correct dose is given before presentation of the food to your pet. Replace and tighten medication cap after use.

For larger dogs, **Meloxicam** suspensions can be given using the measuring syringe provided in the package. The syringe fits onto the bottle and has a scale in kg designed to deliver the daily maintenance dose. When using the syringe, the dog's weight should be rounded down to the nearest kg increment. Ensure that you can correctly measure your pet's weight on the dosing syringe provided. Medication can then be administered orally either by mixing it with food or placing it directly into the mouth. Replace and tighten medication cap after use.

Do not give this medication with any other over the counter medications that are used for treating pain without consulting your veterinarian.

This medication will take effect quickly, in about 1 to 2 hours. Improvement in clinical signs should follow.

Call ahead for refills.

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

TRANSMUCOSAL ORAL SPRAY:

Follow your veterinarian's instructions. Do not change the way you give **Meloxicam** without first speaking with your veterinarian. Your veterinarian will tell you what amount to give, and for how long it should be given. Your veterinarian will assemble the spray bottle/pump prior to dispensing it to you.

Gently shake the bottle. If the bottle is not used for two days or more, re-prime with one spray, or until a fine spray appears. If a partial dose is administered to the pet due to pump failure, do not re-dose, but wait until the next dosing time to administer a full dose.

To administer this product, grasp the corner of your dog's mouth and gently pull it away from the gums, opening the cheek space. Place the applicator tip just inside the cheek space directed towards the back of the cheek space. Holding the bottle and pump upright, fully depress the spray head taking special care to ensure no spray escapes from the mouth. Allow the pump to fully reflate before administering consecutive sprays (if necessary).

Wipe pump with tissue or moist paper towel to prevent clogging. Wash hands after product administration. Discard bottle 6 months after assembly.

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:

- Common signs of pain and inflammation in your pet

- Common signs of osteoarthritis such as limping or lameness, stiffness, decreased joint movement, decreased activity, reluctance to stand, climb stairs, jump or run or difficulty in performing these activities
- The importance of weight control and exercise in the management of OA
- What tests might be done before **Meloxicam** is prescribed
- How often your pet may need to be examined by your veterinarian
- What are the safety concerns when using this product in different specie(s)
- The risks and benefits of using **Meloxicam**

Tell your veterinarian about:

- Experienced side effects from **Meloxicam** or other NSAIDs, such as aspirin
- Digestive upset (vomiting and/or diarrhea)
- Liver or kidney disease
- A bleeding disorder (e.g. von Willebrand's disease)
- Any other medical problems or allergies that your pet has now or has had
- All medicines that you are giving your pet or plan to give your pet, including those you can get without a prescription
- If your pet is less than 6 months of age, pregnant, nursing or if you plan to breed your pet

STORAGE AND WARNINGS:

Store in a tight, light resistant, childproof container 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:

- Serious side effects can occur with or without warning and in rare situations result in death.
- Treatment goals often include the shortest duration of treatment or lowest effective dose consistent with a positive response in order to avoid adverse effects
- This medication can affect the gastrointestinal system causing loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, stomach ulcers, perforations and diarrhea
- This medication can cause a change in bowel movements (such as diarrhea or black, tarry or bloody stools)
- This medication can affect the liver and kidneys, common clinical symptoms could include increased drinking, increased urination and yellowing of the skin (jaundice)
- This medication can cause changes in behavior (such as lethargy, increased activity level, incoordination, seizure and aggression)
- If these symptoms persist or you notice anything else unusual, it is important to stop therapy and 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?

- Yes, but possible interactions may occur when giving **Meloxicam** in conjunction with ACE inhibitors (benazepril, enalapril), amiodarone, aminoglycoside, amlodipine, amphotericin B, anesthetic agents, anticoagulants (coumarin, heparin), anti-inflammatory agents (other NSAIDs), aspirin, bisphosphonates, clopidogrel, corticosteroids, cyclosporine, digoxin, enrofloxacin, fluconazole, furosemide, hydrochlorothiazide, leflunomide, marbofloxacin, methotrexate, pentoxifylline, salicylates, selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRI – e.g. fluoxetine), sulfonamides, telmisartan, tricyclic antidepressants (clomipramine) and valproic acid
- Drugs other than those listed may also interact with **Meloxicam**
- 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 of **Meloxicam**.

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW?

This sheet provides a summary of information about **Meloxicam**. If you have any questions or concerns about **Meloxicam** or osteoarthritis pain, talk to your veterinarian.

As with all prescribed medication, **Meloxicam** 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.

It is important to periodically discuss your pet's response to **Meloxicam** at regular check ups. Your veterinarian will best determine if your pet is responding as expected and if your pet should continue receiving **Meloxicam**.

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