

# DOCTORS FOSTER<sup>and</sup>SMITH<sup>®</sup> PHARMACY

## Patient Information Sheet

PO Box 100, Rhinelander, WI 54501  
For questions or to consult with a pharmacist, call 1-800-447-3021

### Allopurinol

(Aloprim, Zyloprim)

#### Common Drug Name

Allopurinol

#### Common Brand Names

Aloprim and Zyloprim

Generic products are available.

#### Storage

Store at room temperature in a tight, light resistant, childproof container.

#### Uses

Allopurinol decreases the amount of uric acid produced in the body. It is often used in conjunction with a change in diet that is low in purines. The pet is usually on the medication for life.

Dogs: Allopurinol is used in the prevention of urate urinary (bladder) stones. It is also used in the treatment of infection with the blood parasites *Leishmania* and *Trypanosoma* sp.

Cats: Allopurinol is used in the prevention of urate urinary (bladder) stones.

Birds and Reptiles: It is used in the treatment of gout.

#### Dose and Administration

Always follow the dosage instructions provided by your veterinarian. If you have difficulty giving the medication, contact your veterinarian.

In mammals, dose is adjusted based on a 24-hour urine urate excretion test. Spot tests (single urine samples) are inaccurate. Consult with your veterinarian regarding the laboratory testing necessary during treatment with allopurinol.

Dogs and Cats: Usually given after a meal, unless directed otherwise by your veterinarian.

Birds and Reptiles: Usually given in the drinking water. Make fresh solutions daily. If you miss a dose, give it as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for the next dose, skip the one you missed and go back to the regular schedule. Do not give 2 doses at once.

This medication should only be given to the pet for whom it was prescribed.

#### Possible Side Effects

Side effects are rare in animals, but in humans may see nausea, cramping, vomiting, or diarrhea; bone marrow suppression, which could result in anemia, increased risk of infection, and bleeding problems; tiredness; skin rashes; liver damage; and vasculitis (inflammation of blood vessels). If given in excess, may see formation of other types of bladder stones.

Consult your veterinarian if you notice any of the above side effects.

Although rare, if your pet experiences an allergic reaction to the medication, signs may include facial swelling, hives, scratching, sudden onset of diarrhea, vomiting, shock, seizures, pale gums, cold limbs, or coma. If you observe any of these signs, contact your veterinarian immediately.

#### Precautions

Not for use in animals hypersensitive (allergic) to allopurinol, or who have had a serious reaction to it.

Use with caution, lower doses, and intense monitoring in animals with liver or kidney disease.

The safety of this medication in breeding, pregnant, and lactating animals (female animals nursing their young) has not been determined.

With prolonged use, your veterinarian may decrease the dose to help prevent formation of other types of bladder stones.

Consult with your veterinarian regarding physical examinations and laboratory testing necessary prior to and during treatment with allopurinol.

#### Drug, Food, and Test Interactions

Consult your veterinarian before using allopurinol with vitamins, supplements, cyclophosphamide, probenecid, sulfapyrazone, diuretics (e.g., furosemide, Salix, Lasix), aminophylline, theophylline, azathioprine, warfarin, mercaptopurine, trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole, urine acidifiers (such as methionine and ammonium chloride), and with food meant to acidify the urine or with food high in purine.

In humans, skin rashes were more common if given with amoxicillin or ampicillin. Low platelet counts have occurred when given with trimethoprim/sulfamethoxazole.

#### Signs of Toxicity/Overdose

Chronic overdoses cause the formation of different types of bladder stones and could cause difficulty urinating. If you know or suspect your pet has had an overdose, or if you observe any of these signs in your pet, contact your veterinarian immediately.

*Keep this and all other medications out of the reach of children and pets.*