

DOCTORS FOSTER^{and}SMITH[®] PHARMACY

Patient Information Sheet

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

Calcitriol

(Rocaltrol)

Common Drug Name

Calcitriol and 1,25
dihydroxycholecalciferol

Common Brand Names

Rocaltrol (human form)

Generic products are available.

Storage

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

Uses

Calcitriol is a synthetic form of vitamin D that is used in the treatment of kidney disease in dogs and cats to treat or prevent hypocalcemia (low blood levels of calcium). It may also be helpful in treating a skin condition called primary idiopathic seborrhea.

Dose and Administration

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

Calcitriol may be given with or without food.

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 rarely occur if the calcium and phosphorous levels in the blood remain within normal limits. May see loss of appetite, and increased thirst and urination if calcium levels are too high. May see muscle tremors, twitching, weakness, stiff gait, staggering, behavior changes or seizures if the calcium level is too low. If you observe any of these signs in your pet, contact your veterinarian immediately.

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 it.

Do not use in animals with hypercalcemia (high blood levels of calcium), vitamin D toxicity, malabsorption syndrome (pancreatic insufficiency), or abnormal sensitivity to vitamin D.

Use with extreme caution in animals with hyperphosphatemia (high blood levels of phosphorous).

Monitoring of calcium levels in the blood is necessary when an animal is receiving calcitriol. Consult with your veterinarian regarding the physical examinations and laboratory testing necessary prior to and during treatment with calcitriol.

Animals with liver or gallbladder disease may have a decreased absorption of calcitriol.

Drug, Food, and Test Interactions

Consult your veterinarian before using calcitriol with vitamins, supplements, thiazide diuretics, or phosphate binders, fatty meals or the administration of mineral oil, sucralfate, cholestyramine, or colestipol, verapamil, digoxin, corticosteroids (e.g., prednisone, dexamethasone, or triamcinolone), phenytoin, barbiturates, primidone, and magnesium containing antacids, since interactions may occur.

Signs of Toxicity/Overdose

May see loss of appetite, and increased thirst and urination if calcium levels are too high. May see muscle tremors, twitching, weakness, stiff gait, staggering, behavior changes or seizures if the calcium level is too low.

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.