

DOCTORS FOSTER^{and}SMITH[®] PHARMACY

Patient Information Sheet

PO Box 100, Rhinelander WI 54501

For questions or to consult with a pharmacist, call 1-800-447-3021 Mon-Fri from 9am-6pm CST and Sat from 9am-1pm CST. If you have an emergency situation, please contact your local veterinarian immediately.

Cimetidine

(Tagamet)

Common Drug Name

Cimetidine

Generic products are available.

Common Brand Names

Tagamet

Storage

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

The injectable form should be stored at room temperature, NOT in the refrigerator.

Uses

Cimetidine is in a class of drugs called H2 receptor antagonists. It is used to decrease the amount of stomach acid produced. This aids in the treatment of ulcers that are present and helps prevent ulcer formation. It is also used in the treatment of gastritis (inflammation of the stomach), esophagitis (inflammation of the esophagus), and gastric or esophageal reflux.

Dose and Administration

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

Give the oral forms by mouth, without food, if possible; food will decrease its effectiveness.

Cats do not like the taste of some of the liquid forms, and may drool excessively after the medication is given.

The injectable form may be given in the muscle (IM), subcutaneously (SQ, subQ, under the skin), or intravenously (IV).

Signs may recur if a dose is missed. 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 dosing 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. If your pet has any abnormal signs, contact your veterinarian.

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

Do not use in animals hypersensitive (allergic) to it.

Use with caution in animals who are older, have blood abnormalities, or those with liver or kidney disease.

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

Drug, Food, and Test Interactions

Consult your veterinarian before using cimetidine with any other medications, including vitamins and supplements, since interactions may occur.

Cimetidine may affect the levels of many different medications in the blood including azathioprine and other bone marrow suppressing drugs.

If used with antacids, metoclopramide, sucralfate, digoxin, or ketoconazole, give the cimetidine 2 hours before or 2 hours after the other medication(s).

Signs of Toxicity/Overdose

May see rapid heart rate and difficulty breathing.

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.