

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

Corticosteroid Inhalers

(Azmacort)

Common Drug Name

Triamcinolone

“accidents” and need to go outside or use the litter box more often.

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

Common Brand Name

Azmacort

Less common side effects include weight gain, panting, diarrhea, vomiting, and behavior changes.

Drug, Food, and Test Interactions

Consult your veterinarian before you use triamcinolone with vitamins and supplements, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) such as aspirin, carprofen (Rimadyl), deracoxib (Deramaxx), or etodolac (EtoGesic), insulin, modified live vaccines, phenytoin, phenobarbital, rifampin, cyclosporine, estrogens, erythromycin, or mitotane, amphotericin B, furosemide, or thiazide, since interactions may occur.

Storage

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

Side effects of high dose, long-term use may include muscle loss, weakness, and the development of diabetes or hyperadrenocorticism (Cushing's disease). The typical signs of these diseases are increased thirst, urination, and appetite. Animals with Cushing's disease may also develop thin skin, a poor hair coat, and a “pot-belly.”

High doses and long-term use of inhaled corticosteroids may cause abnormal levels of hepatic enzymes, thyroid hormone, cholesterol, and potassium in the blood, and can affect many laboratory tests. Make sure your veterinarian knows your pet is taking corticosteroids prior to testing.

Uses

Triamcinolone is a corticosteroid that can be used in an inhaler as a treatment for asthma. Corticosteroids are also referred to as glucocorticosteroids, glucocorticoids, or sometimes simply as steroids.

Immune system suppression may occur, especially on higher doses, making a pet more susceptible to infection. Contact your veterinarian if your pet has a fever (over 103° F), painful urination (a sign of urinary tract infection), tiredness, sneezing, coughing, or runny eyes.

Dose and Administration

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

Dosage depends on the product used. Your veterinarian may recommend starting at a higher dose and then reducing the dose.

Precautions

Not for use in animals with systemic fungal infections, some types of mange (mites), stomach ulcers, Cushing's disease, high blood pressure, kidney disease, or congestive heart failure.

Signs of Toxicity/Overdose

An acute overdose is unlikely to cause problems. A chronic overdose is likely to cause signs of Cushing's disease or diabetes; both diseases commonly cause increased urinating, drinking, and eating.

Follow your veterinarian's directions on how to properly use the inhaler on your pet.

If you miss a dose, contact your veterinarian to determine the correct dosage schedule. Do not give two doses at once.

Do not use in pregnant animals. May cause premature birth. Can cause birth defects in dogs, rabbits, and rodents.

Abruptly stopping high dose, long-term treatment with corticosteroids may cause signs of Addison's disease, including vomiting, weakness, collapse and sudden death.

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

If on long-term therapy, do not discontinue the drug abruptly. The dose needs to be tapered off over several weeks to allow the body to start making its own cortisol again. May need to give additional steroids while tapering, if the animal is stressed.

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.

Possible Side Effects

Side effects are usually dose dependent. If side effects occur, contact your veterinarian, who may decrease the dosage, frequency, or type of corticosteroid.

May stunt growth if used in young, growing animals.

The most common side effects at high doses are increased appetite, drinking, and urination. Your pet may have more

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