Diethylcarbamazine

**Common Drug Name**
Diethylcarbamazine

**Common Brand Names**
Former products included Filaribits, Nemacide, and Filaribits Plus.

Compounded products are available.

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

**Uses**
**Dogs:** Diethylcarbamazine is approved for the prevention of heartworm disease in dogs and as an aid in the treatment of roundworms.

**Ferrets:** It is a common practice to use diethylcarbamazine for the prevention of heartworm in ferrets.

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

Giving with food may decrease any vomiting or diarrhea.

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 uncommon at heartworm prevention dosages.

Rarely, vomiting, diarrhea, or loss of appetite may be seen. If so, contact your veterinarian.

May see anaphylactic shock (salivation, diarrhea, vomiting, depression, staggering, collapse, lethargy, pale gums, weak pulses, fast heart rate, labored breathing, and death) if given to dogs with microfilaria (immature heartworms) or animals allergic to the medication. If you observe any of these reactions, contact your veterinarian immediately.

**Precautions**
Not for use in animals who are hypersensitive (allergic) to it.

This product must be given daily, starting one month before the mosquito season and extending 60 days beyond, or year-round. If a dose is missed and the animal was exposed to heartworm microfilaria on that day, the animal could develop heartworm disease.

Consult with your veterinarian regarding the physical examinations and laboratory testing (especially a negative heartworm test) prior to and during treatment with diethylcarbamazine.

**Human Precautions**
Some intestinal parasites may be zoonotic (able to infect humans). Consult your veterinarian or physician on how to prevent human infection and reinfection of your pet.

**Drug, Food, and Test Interactions**
Consult your veterinarian before using diethylcarbamazine with any other medications, including vitamins and supplements and dewormers, since interactions may occur.

No known food interactions.

**Signs of Toxicity/Overdose**
**Dogs:** Large overdoses may cause vomiting or depression.

Filaribits Plus has been associated with liver injury and toxicity in some animals; signs include loss of appetite, vomiting, lethargy, jaundice (yellowing of the skin, gums, and eyes), weight loss, incoordination, increased thirst and urination, and dark urine.

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.**

This information may not cover all possible uses, directions, side effects, precautions, allergic reactions, drug interactions, or withdrawal times. Always consult your own veterinarian for specific advice concerning the treatment of your pet.