Doxapram
(Dopram)

**Common Drug Name**
Doxapram

**Common Brand Names**
Dopram-V (veterinary form)
Dopram (human form)

Generic products are available.

**Storage**
Store at room temperature in a tight, light resistant, childproof container. Do NOT freeze.

**Uses**
Doxapram stimulates respiration. It may be used to start or stimulate respiration in newborn puppies and kittens following a difficult birth or a C-section. It may also be used during or after surgery, or to diagnose laryngeal paralysis. It is not a substitute for proper artificial respiratory support (mechanical ventilation).

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

Doxapram may be given as drops under the tongue or by injection.

The effect is usually seen within 2 minutes of giving the drug.

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 two doses at once.

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

**Possible Side Effects**
At high or repeated doses may see high blood pressure, heart rhythm abnormalities, seizures, or hyper-ventilation. Consult your veterinarian if you notice any of these side effects.

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 doxapram.

Do not use in pregnant animals unless the benefits outweigh the risks.

Veterinary precautions are not cited in the manufacturer’s information.

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

**Human Precautions**
Doxapram should not be used in patients with head trauma, seizures, some types of heart failure, or airway obstruction. It should be used with caution in patients with hyperthyroidism, asthma, heart rhythm abnormalities, or fast heart rates.

**Drug, Food, and Test Interactions**
Consult your veterinarian before using doxapram with vitamins and supplements, muscle relaxants, within 10 minutes of discontinuing anesthesia with halothane, enflurane, or other anesthetics, epinephrine or other agents that stimulate the sympathetic nervous system, since interactions may occur.

**Signs of Toxicity/Overdose**
May see increased blood pressure, rapid heart rate, abnormal heart rhythms, muscle tremors, and seizures.

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.**