Acepromazine - Equine
(PromAce)

Common Drug Name
Acepromazine

Common Brand Names
PromAce, Aceproject

Generic products are available.

Storage
Store at room temperature in a tight, light resistant, childproof container. Protect the injectable liquid from freezing.

Uses
Acepromazine is a tranquilizer for nervous or fractious horses. It may be used in conjunction with local anesthetics. It does not provide pain relief. It may be used in early cases of laminitis in efforts to improve circulation in the foot. It may be used to prevent and treat exertional rhabdomyolysis.

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

May require 15 minutes to see full effect. Effects may last 6-8 hours. Results may not be consistent when given orally.

When giving intravenously (IV), give slowly.

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 horse for whom it was prescribed.

Possible Side Effects
May see sweating, trembling, droopy eyelids, incoordination, or slower heart rate and breathing.

In rare cases may cause paralysis of the penis.

May cause excitement, restlessness or increased heart or respiratory rates in some horses.

Urine may appear pink or reddish brown following use of acepromazine.

Consult your veterinarian if you notice any of the above side effects.

May cause stinging when injected into the muscle.

If your horse experiences an allergic reaction to the medication, signs may include facial swelling, hives, scratching, sudden onset of diarrhea, shock, seizures, pale gums, cold limbs, or coma. If you observe any of these signs, contact your veterinarian immediately.

Precautions
Not for use in horses hypersensitive (allergic) to it or other phenothiazines.

Use with caution in debilitated or geriatric horses, and those with liver or heart disease, or low white blood cell counts.

Avoid use in foals and pregnant or lactating horses unless benefits outweigh the risks. Do not use in breeding stallions.

Acepromazine causes low blood pressure. Do not use in horses with dehydration, anemia, or shock.

Do not use in horses with tetanus, or organophosphate or strychnine toxicity.

May cause seizures. Do not use in horses known to have seizures or are having medical procedures known to cause seizures (e.g., myelograms).

Draft horse breeds may be more sensitive to the effects of acepromazine.

When used to aid in restraint, the sedative effect can be overridden and the animal may bite or jump unexpectedly.

Drug, Food, and Test Interactions
Notify your veterinarian of any other medications, including vitamins and supplements, your horse is taking while receiving acepromazine.

Atropine will counteract acepromazine's effect of lowering the heart rate.

Do not use within 1 month of using an organophosphate dewormer or insecticide.

Effect may be increased if used with other central nervous system (CNS) depressant drugs such as barbiturates, general anesthetics, narcotics, or antidepressants.

Consult your veterinarian before using acepromazine with Kapectate, Pepto-Bismol, other antidiarrheal mixtures, antacids, epinephrine, quinidine, propranolol, procaine hydrochloride, and phenytoin, since interactions may occur.

May decrease the hematocrit (a laboratory measurement of red blood cells).

Withdrawal Times
Acepromazine is a classified drug. Consult your veterinarian and event officials before using acepromazine or any other medication in a performance horse. Not for use in horses intended for food.

Signs of Toxicity/Overdose
May see excessive sedation, slowed breathing and heart rates, pale gums, unsteadiness, unconsciousness, collapse. If you know or suspect your horse has had an overdose, or if you observe any of these signs in your horse, contact your veterinarian immediately. Overdoses can be fatal.

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

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 horse.