

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.

Famotidine

(Pepcid)

Common Drug Name

Famotidine

Common Brand Names

Pepcid

Generic products are available.

Storage

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

Uses

Famotidine 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. It is used to prevent stomach or duodenal ulcers in animals with kidney failure.

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; food will decrease its effectiveness.

The injectable is 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. May see loss of appetite and tiredness. If you observe these signs in your pet, 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 older animals or those with heart, liver, or kidney disease.

May have a temporary increase in stomach acid production when use of famotidine is discontinued.

Use with caution in pregnant animals since it may affect weight gain.

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

Drug, Food, and Test Interactions

Notify your veterinarian of any other medications, including vitamins and supplements, your pet is taking while your pet is receiving famotidine.

Consult your veterinarian before using famotidine with antacids, metoclopramide, sucralfate, digoxin, or ketoconazole, since interactions may occur.

Give the famotidine 2 hours before or 2 hours after the other medication(s).

Famotidine may decrease white blood cell counts, especially if given with other bone marrow suppressing drugs such as azathioprine.

Signs of Toxicity/Overdose

Toxicities are rare. May see vomiting, restlessness, pale gums, rapid heart rate, or collapse.

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.