Itraconazole
(Sporanox)

Common Drug Name
Itraconazole

Common Brand Names
Sporanox

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

Uses
Itraconazole is used for the treatment of serious fungal infections. It may also be used against some yeast and dermatophyte (ringworm) infections.

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

Tablets are given by mouth, and should be given with food, preferably a fatty meal. However, contact your veterinarian prior to adding fat to your pet’s diet.

Birds: May be added to the food or drinking water at different concentrations.

Dose and frequency of administration depends upon the disease and response to treatment. It may be necessary to treat for several months, and may take one or two weeks to start seeing improvement.

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

May see lack of appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, weight loss, depression, liver toxicity (jaundice - yellowing of the gums, skin, or eyes), or bleeding problems.

May also see skin lesions and swelling of the legs at higher doses. Rarely, a serious condition called toxic epidermal necrolysis may occur that can be fatal.

Recently there have been reports of dogs getting heart disease after administration of itraconazole.

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 it or to similar products.

Not for use in animals with liver disease.

Not for use in pregnant or lactating animals (female animals nursing their young).

Consult with your veterinarian regarding the physical examinations and laboratory testing necessary, especially the need to monitor liver enzymes, prior to and during treatment with itraconazole.

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 itraconazole.

Do not give with antacids or other products that alkalinize the stomach pH level. If needed, these products may be given 2 hours after the itraconazole dose.

Consult your veterinarian before using itraconazole with didanosine, astemizole, terfenadine (Seldane), cisapride, hypoglycemic agents, warfarin or other anticoagulants, since interactions may occur.

Blood levels of itraconazole, phenytoin, cyclosporine, and rifampin may be altered when these medications are used together.

May increase digoxin levels; they should be monitored while giving itraconazole.

Signs of Toxicity/Overdose
May see signs similar to those under side effects.

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.