

# DOCTORS FOSTER<sup>and</sup>SMITH<sup>®</sup> 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.

## Pancreatic Enzymes

(Pancrelipase, Pancrezyme, Viokase-V, Epizyme, Turbozyme)

### Common Drug Name

Pancreatic enzymes, pancrelipase

### Common Brand Names

Pancrezyme, Viokase-V, Epizyme, Turbozyme

No generic products are available.

### Storage

Store in a tight, light resistant, childproof container in a cool, dry location.

### Uses

Pancreatic enzymes are a collection of secretions from the pancreas that are given to animals whose pancreas has stopped functioning. They are necessary to digest fat, protein, and sugars. The product is generally made from pig pancreas.

**Dogs and Cats:** Pancreatic enzymes are used as a digestive aid for the treatment of exocrine pancreatic insufficiency (maldigestion syndrome). Pancreatic enzymes must be supplemented in cases of pancreatic enzyme deficiency.

**Rabbits:** Pancreatic enzymes may be used to aid in the treatment of gastric trichobezoars (hairballs) and GI stasis.

**Birds:** Pancreatic enzymes are used for the treatment of exocrine pancreatic insufficiency and maldigestion.

### Dose and Administration

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

In most cases, your veterinarian's recommendations will be to mix the powdered form of the enzymes with the food. If feeding dry food, moisten the food with warm water and then add the enzymes. Be sure to allow the enzymes time to work; usually the food and enzyme mixture is allowed to stand 15-20 minutes before feeding.

If using the tablet form, administer the tablet before the meal.

Feeding several small meals a day is usually recommended. If you have any questions regarding how to use this medication, contact your veterinarian.

If you miss a 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

High doses may cause diarrhea, cramping, or vomiting. If you observe any of these reactions, contact your veterinarian immediately.

May cause mouth irritation if not mixed well with moistened food and allowed to stand.

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 pork products.

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

### Human Precautions

In humans, inhaling the powder may cause an asthma attack or irritation to the lungs.

The powder may irritate or burn the skin on contact. Wash immediately if you get any on your skin or your pet's skin. Wash hands after handling this medication.

### Drug, Food and Test Interactions

Consult your veterinarian before using pancreatic enzymes with any other medications, including vitamins and supplements, antacids, cimetidine, and other histamine H<sub>2</sub> receptor antagonists (medications used to decrease stomach acid), since interactions may occur.

Antacids may decrease the effectiveness of pancreatic enzymes.

### Signs of Toxicity/Overdose

An overdose may cause diarrhea, vomiting, or cramping. The effects should be temporary.

If you know or suspect your pet had had an overdose, or if you observe any unusual signs, symptoms, or behaviors, contact your veterinarian immediately.

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