

# 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.

## Phenylbutazone

(Butazolidin, Phenylbute)

### Common Drug Name

Phenylbutazone

### Common Brand Names

Butazolidin, Phenylbute

Generic products are available.

### Storage

Store at room temperature in a tight, light resistant, childproof container. Store injectable between 46-56°, or refrigerate.

### Uses

Phenylbutazone is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) used to relieve pain and inflammation of muscles and bones in horses.

Because of more toxic side effects of phenylbutazone in dogs and cats, other NSAIDs should be used in these species.

### Dose and Administration

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

The oral form should be given with food.

The injectable form should only be given in the vein (intravenously, IV). Do NOT give subcutaneously (under the skin, subQ) or intramuscularly (into the muscle, IM), since it will cause pain and tissue damage. Do not administer intra-arterially (into an artery); it will cause seizures.

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 cause stomach irritation and vomiting. May cause ulcers of the mouth or stomach. If your horse stops eating, becomes depressed, has diarrhea, seems in pain, or grinds his teeth, contact your veterinarian.

May cause bone marrow suppression resulting in anemia (with pale gums and weakness) and/or low white blood cell counts with an increased susceptibility to infections.

If your horse changes his drinking or urinating habits, consult your veterinarian immediately.

If your horse 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 other NSAIDs.

Do not use in animals who are dehydrated or have stomach ulcers; anemia or bleeding disorders; or liver, kidney, or heart disease.

Do not allow your horse to become dehydrated while taking phenylbutazone. Keep plenty of clean drinking water available.

Do not use in foals and ponies; they are more sensitive to its side effects.

Do not use in pregnant or lactating animals (female animals nursing their young).

Do not use in animals that are going to be used for human food.

Phenylbutazone may mask lameness, and it is unethical to use it prior to a soundness exam.

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

### Drug, Food and Test Interactions

Consult your veterinarian before using phenylbutazone with any other medications, including vitamins and supplements, or other NSAIDs, corticosteroids, aspirin, or other ulcer-causing medications, barbiturates, rifampin, corticosteroids, chlorpheniramine, or diphenhydramine, other drugs that could damage the liver, or with diuretics. (e.g., furosemide, Lasix), since interactions may occur.

Misoprostol may reduce the risk of stomach ulcers resulting from the use of phenylbutazone.

May increase levels or prolong duration of action of penicillin, phenytoin, valproic acid, warfarin, NSAIDs, and sulfonamides.

With long-term use, may decrease the effectiveness of phenytoin and digoxin.

Phenylbutazone may be detected in the urine for at least 7 days following administration.

Phenylbutazone may alter the result of laboratory tests. Inform your veterinarian that your horse is taking phenylbutazone prior to any lab testing.

### Signs of Toxicity/Overdose

May see decreased urine production and blood in the urine; jaundice (yellowing of the skin, gums, and eyes); anemia (pale gums and weakness); colic, and ulcers.

If you know or suspect your pet has had an overdose, or if you observe any of these signs in your horse, contact your veterinarian immediately.

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