**Spironolactone**
(Aldactone)

**Generic Name**
Spironolactone
Spironol

Generic products are available.

**Common Brand Names**
Aldactone

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

**Uses**
Spironolactone is a diuretic used to remove excess fluid from the body. Used to treat congestive heart failure and ascites (fluid in the abdomen). It is often used when the pet does not respond to other diuretics. It does not cause the loss of potassium in the blood like other diuretics (Furosemide, Lasix).

**Dose and Administration**
Always follow the dosage instructions provided by your veterinarian.

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.

If you have difficulty giving the medication, contact your veterinarian.

This medication should only be given to the pet for whom it was prescribed.

Food may increase the absorption of spironolactone. Consult your veterinarian about giving this medication with food.

If using the transdermal gel, apply to the skin as directed by your veterinarian.

**Possible Side Effects**
May cause dehydration with excessive thirst and decreased urine production; or electrolyte imbalances (e.g., high potassium and low sodium), often with weakness, stumbling, or lack of energy. May cause vomiting and diarrhea in some animals. If you see any of these signs, contact your veterinarian immediately.

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 spironolactone.

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

Do not use in animals with high potassium levels in the blood, or Addison’s disease (hypoadrenocorticism).

Use with extreme caution in animals with liver or kidney disease.

Do not use in animals with Cushing’s disease (hyperadrenocorticism) who are taking the medication mitotane.

Spironolactone will cause your pet to urinate more often. Your pet may have more “accidents” and need to go outside or use the litter box more.

Your pet needs to eat and drink well while taking spironolactone or the risk of side effects increases. Contact your veterinarian if your pet is not eating or drinking well.

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

**Drug and Food Interactions**
Notify your veterinarian of any other medications, including vitamins and supplements, your pet is taking while your pet is receiving spironolactone.

Do not give with potassium supplements.

If used with ACE inhibitors (heart medications such as enalapril or captopril), may increase the risk of high blood potassium levels.

May alter the level of the medication, digoxin, in the blood, and require extra monitoring of the blood levels of digoxin.

Aspirin may decrease the effects of spironolactone.

**Signs of Toxicity/Overdose**
May see weakness, stumbling, lack of energy, vomiting, diarrhea, increased thirst, and increased urination. 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.*