**Atenolol**
(Tenormin)

**Common Drug Name**
Atenolol

**Common Brand Names**
Tenormin

Generic products are available.

**Storage**
Refrigerate oral suspension. Store other forms at room temperature in a tight, light resistant, childproof container.

**Uses**
Atenolol is in the class of drugs called beta-blockers. It is used to treat certain heart diseases, such as arrhythmias (irregular heart beats), in cats, dogs, and ferrets. It slows and regulates the heart rate and makes the heart work more efficiently. It may also be used to lower blood pressure and treat hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (an enlarged heart condition) in cats.

**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 form by mouth, with or without food.

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

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

**Possible Side Effects**
May cause tiredness, diarrhea; low blood pressure which would cause faintness, weakness, or dizziness. May constrict the bronchi, causing coughing, wheezing, or difficulty breathing. It may cause the heart rate to be too slow if given at an improper dose. Consult with your veterinarian if you notice any of the above side effects.

If your pet experiences an allergic reaction to the medication, signs may include facial swelling, hives, scratching, sudden onset of diarrhea, 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 atenolol.

Use with caution in animals with kidney disease.

Use with caution in animals with diabetes since it can affect blood sugar levels.

Use with caution in animals with some types of lungs disease such as asthma.

Do not use in certain heart conditions such as heart block, bradycardia (slow heart rate), and some types of heart failure.

Do not discontinue the drug abruptly or without directions from your veterinarian, or your pet’s condition may become worse.

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

**Drug, Food, and Test Interactions**
Consult your veterinarian before using atenolol with vitamins, supplements, terbutaline, epinephrine, and Phenylpropanolamine, phenothiazines (tranquilizers such as acepromazine), furosemide (Lasix), hydralazine, or insulin since interactions may occur.

**Signs of Toxicity/Overdose**
May see very slow heart rate, inability to exercise, shortness of breath, cough, or change in behavior or attitude.

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.*