**Corticosteroids with DMSO**

**Ear Preparations**
(Synotic)

**Common Drug Name**
Corticosteroids (e.g., fluocinolone) with dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO)

**Common Brand Names**
Synotic Otic Solution

No generic products are available.

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

**Uses**
Topical corticosteroids are used in the treatment of inflammation and itching of the ear. DMSO increases the absorption of the corticosteroids and also has anti-inflammatory properties.

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

The ear should be thoroughly cleaned and dried before treatment. Remove any debris, crusty material, etc., with a suitable non-irritating ear cleaning solution. Clip any excessive hair from the ear or treatment area, as directed.

Apply the prescribed amount in the ear and gently massage the ear to distribute the medication.

Wear gloves when applying corticosteroids with DMSO. Avoid contact with your bare skin. The DMSO is rapidly absorbed through the skin, enters the blood stream, and causes an unpleasant taste in the mouth for a short time. Avoid contact with the treated area until it has dried.

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**
DMSO may cause a garlic or oyster-like breath and taste in the mouth.

Corticosteroids with DMSO may cause a short, stinging sensation, especially on open skin, and a temporary increase in temperature of the treated area may be noticed.

If ingested or given at high doses for an extended period of time, the most common side effect of corticosteroids with DMSO is an increase in the amount of drinking and urinating. Less commonly, may see an increased appetite and weight gain, panting, diarrhea, vomiting, and behavior changes. Consult your veterinarian if you notice any of the above side effects.

**Precautions**
Not for use in animals hypersensitive (allergic) to fluocinolone or DMSO.

Avoid contact with the eyes.

Do not use in pregnant animals. Prevent ingestion of the medication. If ingested or given at high doses for an extended period, corticosteroids with DMSO can cause premature birth especially toward the end of pregnancy. In dogs, rabbits, and rodents, corticosteroids can cause birth defects.

Corticosteroids, if given at high doses or for extended periods, can cause delayed wound healing and immunosuppression resulting in an increased risk of bacterial or fungal infections.

DMSO is a solvent, and may harm plastics, fabrics, and other materials.

Consult with your veterinarian regarding the ear examinations or laboratory testing necessary prior to and during treatment with topical corticosteroids. It should not be used in animals with a perforated eardrum.

**Drug, Food, and Test Interactions**
Contact your veterinarian before using topical corticosteroids with vitamins and supplements, or in the presence of other medications, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) such as aspirin, carprofen (Rimadyl), deracoxib (Deramaxx), or etodolac (EtoGesic), since interactions may occur.

**Signs of Toxicity/Overdose**
May see an increase in the amount of drinking and urinating; increased appetite and weight gain; panting; diarrhea and vomiting; or behavior changes.

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.