Sucralfate - Equine
(Carafate)

**Common Drug Name**
Sucralfate

**Common Brand Names**
Carafate (human form)

Generic products are available.

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

**Uses**
Sucralfate is an antiulcer medication. It coats ulcers in the digestive system and protects them from further damage from stomach acid. It is used in the treatment and prevention of ulcers of the esophagus, stomach, or small intestine.

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

Unless directed otherwise, if giving tablets, it is best to crush them so the medication is better absorbed.

Unless directed otherwise, give sucralfate on an empty stomach (1 hour before or 2 hours after feeding).

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 see constipation; if so, consult your veterinarian.

If your horse experiences an allergic reaction to the medication, signs may include facial swelling, hives, scratching, sudden onset of diarrhea, shock, seizures, pale gums, cold limbs, or coma. If you observe any of these signs, contact your veterinarian immediately.

**Precautions**
Not for use in horses hypersensitive (allergic) to sucralfate.

Use with caution in horses with constipation or slow movement of food through the digestive tract.

The safety of sucralfate in breeding, pregnant, or lactating horses has not been determined.

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

With long-term use, the aluminum in sucralfate may accumulate in the brain, or in the bones, causing the bones to weaken.

If there is grinding of teeth, or an increase in other signs of ulcers, contact your veterinarian immediately, because the ulcers may be getting worse.

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

Consult your veterinarian before using sucralfate with cimetidine, tetracycline, phenytoin, fluoroquinolones, and digoxin, since interactions may occur.

Sucralfate can affect the absorption of many other medications. Do not give any medications or vitamin supplements within 2 hours of giving sucralfate.

**Withdrawal Times**
Consult your veterinarian and event officials before using sucralfate or any other medication in a performance horse. Not for use in horses intended for food.

**Signs of Toxicity/Overdose**
May see constipation. If you know or suspect your horse has had an overdose, or if you observe constipation in your horse, contact your veterinarian immediately.

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