

DOCTORS FOSTER^{and}SMITH[®] PHARMACY

Patient Information Sheet

PO Box 100, Rhinelander, WI 54501
For questions or to consult with a pharmacist, call 1-800-447-3021

Penicillin G

(Procaine, Benzathine, or Aqueous Penicillin G)

Common Drug Name

Procaine Penicillin G, Benzathine Penicillin G, Aqueous Penicillin G (Penicillin G Potassium)

Common Brand Names

Ambi-Pen (combination of procaine and benzathine penicillin)

Generic products, as well as combination products containing both procaine and benzathine penicillin G, are available.

Storage

Store tablets and powder at room temperature in a tight, light resistant childproof container. Avoid excessive heat.

After reconstituting (adding liquid to the powder), the oral solution should be refrigerated and any remaining should be discarded after 14 days.

After reconstitution (adding liquid to the powder), the injectable solution is stable for 7 days in the refrigerator, and 24 hours at room temperature.

Procaine penicillin G and benzathine penicillin G should be stored in the refrigerator. Do not freeze.

Uses

Penicillin G is usually used in an injectable form for the treatment of susceptible bacterial infections in multiple species including dogs, cats, ferrets, rabbits, hedgehogs, birds.

Certain species, including snakes, birds, turtles, guinea pigs, and chinchillas are reported to be sensitive to procaine penicillin.

Dose and Administration

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

Penicillin G is measured in units. There are multiple concentrations of penicillin G available, including 1,000,000 units/ml, 300,000 units/ml, and 150,000 units/ml. When measuring the proper dose, be sure you are using the correct concentration.

The route of injection varies with the product. Be sure to follow the directions.

The oral form should not be given with food.

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

Side effects are rare. With high doses, or prolonged use in dogs may see staggering, rapid breathing, difficulty breathing, rapid heart rate, and swelling of the limbs (edema). Contact your veterinarian if you observe any of these effects in your pet.

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 penicillins or beta-lactam antibiotics such as cephalosporins.

Penicillins cross the placenta, and it is advised not to use them in pregnant animals although no detrimental results to fetuses have been reported.

Use with caution in very small animals who may be dehydrated or have kidney or heart disorders.

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

Certain species, including snakes, birds, turtles, guinea pigs, and chinchillas are reported to be sensitive to procaine penicillin.

Human Precautions

People with hypersensitivities (allergies) to penicillins or beta-lactam antibiotics such as cephalosporins should not handle penicillins, since allergic reactions could occur just from contact.

Drug, Food and Test Interactions

Consult your veterinarian before using penicillin G with any other medications, including vitamins and supplements, since interactions may occur.

Penicillins should not be used with bacteriostatic antibiotics, such as erythromycin or tetracyclines. These types of medications halt the growth of bacteria, and penicillins are more effective when the bacteria are actively growing.

Signs of Toxicity/Overdose

Large overdoses may cause vomiting or diarrhea. With high doses, or prolonged use in dogs may see staggering, rapid breathing, difficulty breathing, rapid heart rate, and swelling of the limbs (edema).

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.