**Sulfasalazine**

(Azulfidine)

**Common Drug Name**
Sulfasalazine

**Common Brand Names**
Azulfidine

Generic products are available

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

**Uses**
Sulfasalazine is used to treat inflammation of the bowel in dogs, cats, and ferrets.

**Dose and Administration**
Your veterinarian may gradually increase the dose until the stools are normal; then, the dose may be decreased. Always follow the dosage instructions provided by your veterinarian. If you have difficulty giving the medication, contact your veterinarian.

Give by mouth. This medication should be given with food, unless directed otherwise 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**
Keratoconjunctivitis sicca (KCS, dry eye) may occur with long-term use of sulfasalazine.

Stop giving the medication and consult your veterinarian if your pet experiences discharge from the eye, redness of the eye, squinting, or other signs related to the eye.

Cats may have vomiting or a loss of appetite.

Other less common side effects include anemia resulting in pale gums and tiredness; low platelets resulting in bleeding tendencies; fever; kidney damage resulting in increased thirst and urination; and skin rashes and itchiness. Side effects involving the liver also include jaundice (yellowing of the gums, skin, or eyes). Stop giving the medication and consult your veterinarian if your pet experiences any of these signs.

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 who are hypersensitive (allergic) to it, other sulfa medications, or aspirin.

Use with extreme caution in pregnant or lactating animals (female animals nursing their young). May decrease fertility in male dogs.

Do not use in animals with blood cell abnormalities such as anemia.

Not for use in animals with dehydration, intestinal obstruction, urinary obstruction, liver disease, bladder or kidney stones, or kidney disease.

The pet should be encouraged to drink water to prevent urinary stone formation.

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

**Drug, Food, and Test Interactions**
Consult your veterinarian before using sulfasalazine with other medications, including vitamins and supplements, methotrexate, warfarin, phenylbutazone, thiazide diuretics, salicylates (aspirin), probenecid, phenytoin, folic acid, digoxin, and antacids since interactions may occur.

No known food interactions.

**Signs of Toxicity/Overdose**
Signs of toxicity or overdose are similar to the side effects listed above, and may also include depression, increased rate of breathing, muscle weakness, confusion, seizures, and facial swelling. 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.*