

Amantadine - Main

Amantadine - Capsule (Cats)

Amantadine - Capsule (Dogs)

Amantadine - Oral Solution (Cats)

Amantadine - Oral Solution (Dogs)

Amantadine - Tablet (Cats)

Amantadine - Tablet (Dogs)

AMANTADINE

Amantadine has been prescribed for your pet as an antiviral agent or to relieve chronic or neuropathic pain (e.g. arthritis, nerve or cancer pain). It may be used in combination with other pain relievers for optimum benefit. Amantadine is available by prescription from your licensed veterinarian as capsules, tablets and as an oral solution.

WHAT IS THIS DRUG?

- N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) antagonist
- Originally used as an antiviral medication against influenza (the flu). Now, it is mainly used in combination with pain relievers to improve their effects.
- Given by mouth

REASONS FOR PRESCRIBING:

- Treat arthritis pain
- Treat chronic post-operative pain
- Treat neuropathic pain (chronic pain due to nerve injury)
- Treat cancer pain, especially osteosarcoma (bone cancer)
- As an antiviral agent

ANIMAL PRECAUTIONS:

- This medication is used off-label in cats and dogs and should be administered only when and as prescribed by a licensed veterinarian
- Use of this medication in any other species should be in consultation with a veterinarian
- Use of this prescribed medication in animals with any of the following conditions should be limited to those who are under the supervision of a veterinarian:
 - o Liver or kidney disease
 - o Congestive heart disease
 - o Seizure disorders
 - o Behavioral disorders
 - o Untreated glaucoma
- Safety has not been established in:
 - o Pregnant or nursing animals
- Animals with a known hypersensitivity or allergy to this or other related products should not be given this medication

DIRECTIONS: Read and follow the prescription label carefully. Give the exact amount prescribed and only as often as directed. Give this medication for as long as your veterinarian directs. Do not skip doses or stop giving the medication without consulting your veterinarian. Missed doses reduce the effectiveness of therapy. Baseline blood work may be recommended to assess your pet's general health before

starting this medication. Periodic blood work may be recommended to monitor this medication's effects on the body. Dose adjustments may be made based upon these results and an assessment of how your dog or cat is responding clinically.

Discuss with your veterinarian if this medication is to be given with food.

This medication will take effect quickly, in about 1 to 2 hours, but its effects may not be visibly noticeable for a few days.

Call ahead for refills.

Ideally, give this medication at the same time(s) daily.

WHAT IF A DOSE IS MISSED?

If a dose is missed, give it as soon as you can. If it is time already for the next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to the normal schedule. Do not give two doses at the same time.

WHAT TO TELL/ASK YOUR VETERINARIAN BEFORE GIVING THIS MEDICATION?

Talk to your veterinarian about:

- What are the signs of discomfort in your pet
- When will your pet need to be rechecked
- What tests may need to be performed prior to and during treatment with this drug
- What are the safety concerns when using this product in different species
- Risks and benefits of using this drug

Tell your veterinarian about:

- If your pet has experienced side effects on other drugs/products
- If your pet has experienced digestive upset now or ever
- If your pet has experienced liver or kidney disease now or ever
- If your pet has experienced any other medical problems or allergies now or ever
- All medicines and supplements that you are giving your pet or plan to give your pet, including those you can get without a prescription. Your veterinarian may want to check that all of your pet's medicines can be given together.
- If your pet is pregnant or nursing or if you plan to breed your pet

STORAGE AND WARNINGS:

Store at room temperature away from moisture and heat. Keep in an airtight container.

Keep this and all medication out of reach of children and pets. Call your physician immediately if you accidentally take this product.

POTENTIAL SIDE EFFECTS:

- Gastrointestinal effects: nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, flatulence, diarrhea
- Agitation (most likely to occur in first few days)
- Humans report various mental side effects, for example, hallucinations and dizziness
- If you notice anything unusual, contact your veterinarian
- This short-acting medication should stop working within 24 hours, although effects may last longer in pets with liver or kidney disease

CAN THIS DRUG BE GIVEN WITH OTHER MEDICATIONS?

- Yes, but possible interactions may occur when giving Amantadine in conjunction with anticholinergics, antihistamines, central nervous system stimulants (selegiline), thiazide diuretics ("water pills" or triamterene), trimethoprim sulfa, quinidine, quinine and urinary acidifiers (methionine, ammonium chloride, ascorbic acid)

- Drugs other than those listed may also interact with Amantadine
- Do not give new food or medications without first talking to your veterinarian
- If your pet experiences any unusual reactions when taking multiple medications, contact your veterinarian

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I KNOW OF OR SUSPECT THERE HAS BEEN AN OVERDOSE?

Irregular heart rhythm, high blood pressure, seizures and breathing problems are reported in humans who have overdosed. Contact your veterinarian immediately if your pet ingest more than the prescribed amount.

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW?

This is just a summary of information about Amantadine. If you have any questions or concerns about Amantadine or the condition for which it was prescribed, contact your veterinarian.

As with all prescribed medicines, Amantadine should only be given to the pet for which it was prescribed. It should be given only for the condition for which it was prescribed, at the prescribed dose, as directed by your veterinarian.

It is important to periodically discuss your pet's response to Amantadine at regular check ups. Your veterinarian will best determine if your pet is responding as expected and if your pet should continue receiving Amantadine.