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CHLORAMPHENICOL

(Brand Names: Atopica, Neoral, Sandimmune, and Optimmune (Ophthalmic))

STRENGTH: 250 mg, 500 mg, 1000 mg Tablets and oral suspension (plus numerous topical products)

ROUTE OF ADMINISTRATION: ORAL. Results are best when given with food as this reduces potential for nausea and helps disguise the bitter flavor. Specific products for use in the eyes and ears are also available.

ACTION OF MEDICATION: Chloramphenicol is a broad spectrum antibiotic especially useful in penetrating to inaccessible infections.

MOST COMMON SIDE EFFECTS REPORTED: Vomiting, diarrhea, appetite loss and listlessness. These are common but not generally severe. If giving medication with food does not sufficiently resolve these issues, another medication can be selected.

SEVERE SIDE EFFECTS REPORTED: Cats are more likely to have bone marrow problems with this medication and dosing should be reduced in this species. Rear leg weakness has been reported in large breed dogs.

STORAGE: Store the commercial product at room temperature, away from light. Store any compounded product in accordance with the pharmacy's instructions.

IF YOU MISS A DOSE: Do not double up on the next dose. Simply pick up with the next scheduled dose. This is a "three times daily" medication.

OTHER INFORMATION: Humans may develop fatal aplastic anemia if exposed orally tochloramphenicol (risk is approximately one person in 25,000). This condition is irreversible and is not dependent upon dosages. For this reason, chloramphenicol has been banned from food animal usein the United States as well as from human use. Washing hands after handling this medication isrecommended.

For a more detailed presentation, visit:

www.marvistavet.com/chloramphenicol.pml