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MIRTAZAPINE

(Brand Names: Mirataz, Remeron)

STRENGTH: 7.5 MG, 15 MG, 30 MG, 45 MG TABLETS
AND TRANSDERMAL EAR GEL FOR CATS

ROUTE OF ADMINISTRATION: The ear gel is applied daily to the skin on the inner surface of the ear flap. The tablets are for oral use and may be given with or without food. The ear gel should not be used orally.

ACTION OF MEDICATION: Tetracyclic antidepressant with a strong appetite stimulation side effect. Mostly used for the appetite stimulation side effect.

MOST COMMON SIDE EFFECTS REPORTED: Drowsiness. In cats, an increase in affectionate behavior can be seen. Also, increased vocalization. Paradoxically, hyperactivity can be seen as well as vomiting.

SEVERE SIDE EFFECTS REPORTED: Serotonin syndrome (generally not likely unless other medications that also encourage serotonin syndrome are in play.) Serotonin syndrome involves a dangerous surge in blood pressure. Elevated heart rate, tremors/shivering, dilated pupils, difficulty breathing, elevated body temperature, or high blood pressure can all be signs of serotonin syndrome. Animals with serotonin syndrome sometimes demonstrate general hyperactivity. If there is any question that serotonin syndrome is occurring, cyproheptadine can be used as an antidote.

STORAGE: Keep away from light and store at room temperature. Do not refrigerate.

IF YOU MISS A DOSE: Do not double up on the next dose. Simply give the medication when it is remembered or pick up with the next dose, allowing at least the proper interval between doses according to the label instructions.

OTHER INFORMATION: Do not give this medication within 14 days of using an MAO inhibitor (such as selegiline or amitraz.) Make sure your veterinarian is aware of all medications in use. For more information on potential drug interactions, see the link below.

Wear gloves when applying ear gel. Alternate which ear is used daily.

For a more detailed presentation, visit:

www.marvistavet.com/mirtazapine.pml