



Mar Vista Animal Medical Center

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TRAZODONE **(Brand Name: Desyrel)**

STRENGTH: 50 mg, 100 mg, 150 mg, 300 mg Tablets

ROUTE OF ADMINISTRATION: ORAL

May be given with or without food. A lower dose is sometimes prescribed for the first few days to reduce the chance of causing upset stomach.

ACTION OF MEDICATION: Enhances activity of serotonin. Used mostly for short-term control of anxiety as with travel or veterinary visits. Also used to facilitate post-operative confinement..

MOST COMMON SIDE EFFECTS REPORTED: Nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, food seeking, and sedation. Nausea side effects, if they occur, can be mitigated by giving the medication with food. When studied, 80% of dogs showed no side effects when using trazodone.

SEVERE SIDE EFFECTS REPORTED: Rare but serious effects can include: disinhibition of aggression (where patient loses anxiety that had previously prevented aggressive behavior).

Serotonin Syndrome is possible if trazodone is combined with MAO inhibitors, tramadol, or metoclopramide (see link for more information). Elevated heart rate, tremors/shivering, dilated pupils, difficulty breathing, elevated body temperature, or high blood pressure can all be signs of serotonin syndrome.

Heart arrhythmias when combined with cisapride, quinolone antibiotics, or ondansetron for nausea..

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: Use with caution in patients with heart, liver or kidney disease. Potential for several drug interactions, especially with "azole" antifungals, and MAO inhibitors (which can include some tick products).

For a more detailed presentation, visit:

<https://www.marvistavet.com/trazodone.pml>