PRESCRIPTION ANIMAL REMEDY
KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN
FOR ANIMAL TREATMENT ONLY

Vetmedin® 1.25 mg
CHEWABLE TABLETS FOR DOGS
Vetmedin® 5 mg
CHEWABLE TABLETS FOR DOGS

Boehringer Ingelheim

Composition
Pimobendan, a benzimidazole-pyridazinone derivative, is a non-sympathomimentic, non-glycoside inotropic substance with potent vasodilatative properties.
1.25 mg beef flavoured palatable chewable tablet contains 1.25 mg pimobendan
5 mg beef flavoured palatable chewable tablet contains 5 mg pimobendan

Action
Pimobendan exerts its stimulatory myocardial effect by a dual mechanism of action: increase in calcium sensitivity of cardiac myofilaments and inhibition of phosphodiesterase (type III).
It also exhibits a vasodilating action through an inhibitory action on phosphodiesterase III activity.

Following oral administration of pimobendan the absolute bioavailability of the active principle is 60-63%.
The mean plasma protein binding is 93%.
The plasma elimination half-life of pimobendan is approximately 30 minutes and the main active metabolite elimination half-life is approximately 2 hours. Almost the entire dose is eliminated via faeces.

Indications
Vetmedin® chewable tablets are indicated for the treatment of canine congestive heart failure originating from dilated cardiomyopathy or valvular insufficiency (mitral and/or tricuspid regurgitation).

DIRECTIONS FOR USE

Contraindications
Should not be used in cases of hypertrophic cardiomyopathies or clinical conditions where an augmentation of cardiac output is not recommended for functional or anatomical reasons (eg. aortic stenosis).

Side-effects
A moderate positive chronotropic effect and vomiting may occur in rare cases. However, these effects are dose-dependent and can be avoided by reducing the dose in those cases.

Dosage and Administration
Vetmedin® chewable tablets should be administered orally at a dose range of 0.2 mg to 0.6 mg pimobendan/kg bodyweight per day. The preferable daily dose is 0.5 mg pimobendan/kg bodyweight. The dose should be divided into two administrations (0.25 mg/kg bodyweight), one half of the dose in the morning and the other half approximately 12 hours later. Each dose should be given approximately one hour before feeding.

	Pimobendan Dosage: 0.2-0.6 mg/kg daily			
	No. of tablets per administration			
Body-weight (kg)	Morning		Evening	
	1.25 mg	5.0 mg	1.25 mg	5.0 mg
2-4	½	-	½	-
5-10	1	-	1	-
11-20	-	½	-	½
21-40	-	1	-	1
41-60	-	2	-	2
>60	-	3	-	3

Vetmedin® chewable tablets may be combined with a diuretic treatment such as furosemide.

In the case of overdosing a symptomatic treatment should be initiated.

Use during pregnancy and lactation

In studies with rats and rabbits pimobendan had no effect on fertility and embryotoxic effects only occurred at maternotoxic doses. In rat experiments it has been shown that pimobendan is excreted into milk. Vetmedin® chewable tablets should only be administered to pregnant and lactating bitches if the expected therapeutic benefits overweigh the potential risk.

Interaction

In pharmacological studies no interaction between the cardiac glycoside ouabin and Pimobendan was detected. The Pimobendan induced increase in contractility of the heart is attenuated in the presence of the calcium antagonist verapamil and the β-antagonist propranolol.

First Aid

If poisoning occurs contact a doctor or Poisons Information Centre. *Phone Australia 131126; New Zealand 03 474 7000 (0800 POISON).*

Disposal

Dispose of empty container by wrapping with paper and putting in garbage.

Storage

Store below 25°C (air conditioning)
Keep the container tightly closed.

Presentation

White high density polyethylene screw-necked bottle with polypropylene child-resistant closure containing 50 meat flavoured palatable tablets.

Prescription Animal Remedy **(P.A.R)** Class I.
For use only under the authority or prescription of a veterinarian.
Registered pursuant to the ACVM Act 1997, ACVM No. A9699, A9701
See www.nzfsa.govt.nz/acvm/
for registration conditions

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