

Patient Information Sheet

PO Box 362, Akron, NY 14001

For questions or to consult with a pharmacist, call 1-855-307-7940. If you have an emergency situation, please contact your local veterinarian immediately.

Antibiotic with Corticosteroid Ophthalmic Preparations

(Neobacimyx-H, Gentocin Durafilm)

Common Drug Names

Multiple generic antibiotics and cortico-steroids are used in a variety of eye ointments and suspensions

Common Brand Names

Neobacimyx-H and Gentocin Durafilm

Generic products are available.

Storage

Store at room temperature in a tight, light resistant container.

Uses

Neomycin, polymyxin B, and bacitracin, and gentamicin are antibiotics used singly and in various combinations to treat bacterial infections of the eyes and eyelids. The combination of the first three of these antibiotics is often termed "triple antibiotic."

Corticosteroids, such as hydrocortisone or dexamethasone, are added to treat the inflammation (conjunctivitis).

Dose and Administration

Always follow the dosage instructions provided by your veterinarian. If you have difficulty applying the medication, contact your veterinarian.

If discharge is present, the area should be cleansed with a sterile eyewash solution prior to applying the medication. Always wash your hands before and after applying this medication.

When applying ointments, place one hand under and around your pet's chin and lift upward, so the pet's eyes are looking towards the ceiling. Pull down gently on the lower lid with a finger or thumb, depending upon which eye you are treating. Rest your other hand on top of the pet's head. Be sure the tip of the tube is pointed away from your pet's eye so if your pet jerks, the tube tip will not injure the eye.

Hold the tube of ointment about one inch from the eye and apply a short ribbon of ointment along the inner edge of the lower lid, starting at the inside corner of the eye. Rotate the tube when you reach the outer portion of the eye to help detach the ointment from the tube. Have your pet blink, and gently hold the eyelid shut. Gently massage the closed eyelid to disperse the ointment. Ointments will blur your animal's vision for a few minutes after administration. Prevent your pet from bumping into things and becoming injured.

If using eye drops, shake the suspension well before using. Follow the directions above, but squeeze the drops into the corner of the eye, taking care not to touch the dropper to the eye surface. Continue to hold the head back for a moment while the drops disperse over the whole eye surface.

Never touch the tip of the tube or dropper to the pet's eye, lids, or eyelashes. Do not touch the inside of the cap or the dropper or tube tip with your fingers, as this will also contaminate the medication.

If you are applying more than one medication to the eye, allow 5 minutes between applications so one medication is not washed out by the next. Be sure not to interchange the caps of the medications.

If you miss a dose, apply it as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for the next dose, skip the application you missed and go back to the regular schedule. Do not give two doses at once.

This medication should only be given to the pet for whom it was prescribed.

Possible Side Effects

Side effects are unusual.

The medication may cause the eye to sting for a short time when first applied.

If ingested, the corticosteroids may cause an increase in the amount of drinking and urinating. Less commonly may see an increased appetite, weight gain, panting, diarrhea, vomiting, or behavior changes.

Some cats may have a fatal allergic (anaphylactic) reaction to the antibiotic combination of these drugs. It is not known which of the components is the cause of this fatal reaction. If your cat has swelling of the face, itching, or appears to have difficulty breathing, you should contact your veterinarian immediately.

Precautions

Do not use in animals hypersensitive (allergic) to any of the ingredients.

Your pet's eye should start to improve in 48 hours; if not, contact your veterinarian.

Do not use in fungal or viral infections of the eye before healing has started. Also do not use if an ulcer on the eye could be present, since corticosteroids could cause the ulcer to worsen or rupture. Therefore, an ophthalmic exam by a veterinarian is necessary before using this medication. Prolonged use could result in a serious bacterial or fungal infection.

Prevent ingestion. If ingested at high doses or for extended periods, corticosteroids can cause premature birth or birth defects.

Consult with your veterinarian regarding the eye examinations and laboratory testing necessary prior to and during treatment with antibiotic with corticosteroid ophthalmic preparations.

Drug, Food, and Test Interactions

Consult your veterinarian before using corticosteroid ophthalmic preparations with any other medications, including vitamins and supplements, since interactions may occur.

Signs of Toxicity/Overdose

Adverse reactions and toxicities are unlikely if used according to directions. If you know or suspect your pet has had an overdose contact your veterinarian immediately.

Keep this and all other medications out of the reach of children and pets.

This information may not cover all possible uses, directions, side effects, precautions, allergic reactions, drug interactions, or withdrawal times. Always consult your own veterinarian for specific advice concerning the treatment of your pet.