



TECHNICAL NOTES



Cephaforte

Antibiotic Tablets for Dogs



Active Constituents

Cephalexin 300 mg/tablet, 600 mg/tablet.

Actions

Cephalexin is a broad spectrum cephalosporin antibiotic which is chemically related to penicillin. Based on its broad spectrum of activity, cephalexin makes an ideal choice for trauma cases where diffusion into bone and joints may be important. It provides a good treatment and prevention for osteomyelitis and supports the needs of surgical prophylaxis. In cases of persistent infection (pyodermas and abscesses) cephalexin is ideal for long-term therapy.

Microbiology: As cephalexin is resistant to the action of β -lactamases, Cephaforte is active against strains of *Staphylococcus aureus* that are insensitive to penicillin (or related antibiotics such as ampicillin or amoxicillin). Cephalexin has bactericidal activity against a wide range of Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria, including *Staphylococcus* spp., *Streptococcus* spp., *Corynebacterium* spp., *Pasteurella multocida*, *Escherichia coli*, *Proteus* spp., *Micrococcus* spp. and *Moraxella* spp., causing death of bacterial cells through a diversity of biological and biochemical effects on the cell wall.

Pharmacokinetics: Cephalexin is acid stable and active when administered orally. Cephalexin has an excellent absorption profile, with distribution through most body fluids and tissues including kidneys, lungs, joints, bone, soft tissues and biliary tract. Cephalexin is excreted unmetabolised in the urine, and so provides high and sustained antibiotic levels in cases of urinary tract infections (UTIs), and such levels are minimally affected by the usual variations in urinary pH associated with UTIs. Removal of the active agent is primarily through glomerular filtration through the kidneys as well as some tubular secretion. The elimination half-life of cephalexin is about one to two hours in dogs and cats.

Indications

Treatment of infections in dogs and cats caused by cephalexin-sensitive organisms, including infections of soft tissue, skin, respiratory tract, urinary tract, digestive tract and for the prevention and treatment of osteomyelitis.





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Contraindications

Administration to animals with a history of allergic reactions to cephalosporins or penicillins. Do not use in food producing animals.

Disposal

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

Adverse Reactions

Nausea and vomiting in dogs may occasionally occur, but these effects are unusual and transitory.

Dosage and Administration

Administer orally. Give 15 mg/kg bodyweight twice per day. In refractory cases, dose may be increased to 20 mg/kg twice daily. Duration of treatment is at least three days, but may be extended at the discretion of the veterinarian.

Presentation

Tablets, 300 mg: 200s; 600 mg: 300s.

Storage

Store below 30°C (room temperature).

Poisons Schedule

S4.

Registration Numbers

APVMA Nos 60442 (300 mg), 60441 (600 mg)

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