**Drug Information: Carprofen**

**Name - Active Ingredient**
- Carprofen

**Species**
- Short- and long-term use in dogs
- Single treatment only in cats

**Major Indication**
- Nonsteroidal Anti-inflammatory Drug (NSAID)
  - Painkiller, anti-inflammatory, antipyretic (reduces fever)
- Used after injury or surgery.
- Can be used long-term to treat chronically painful conditions (e.g., osteoarthritis).

**Common Contraindications and Warnings**
- The drug should not be given to dehydrated animals, those with low blood pressure, or those with a clotting disorder.
- Care is needed in older patients with pre-existing kidney disease, intestinal disease, or liver disease.
- Safety has not been determined in puppies younger than 6 months or in pregnant or lactating dogs.
- Do not administer alongside any other NSAID or steroid (e.g., prednisone) and do not change NSAIDs until your pet has gone through a 7-day washout period of no Carprofen.

**Potential Side Effects**
- The most common side effects are vomiting and/or diarrhea (less than 2%).
- Rare side effects include liver or kidney failure, bleeding, and intestinal ulceration.
- Animals that develop side effects often tolerate a different NSAID.
- There is little evidence to suggest one particular NSAID has a better safety profile than another.

**Administration Instructions/Handling**
- Give with food.
- Stop if your dog develops vomiting or diarrhea, or if it becomes unwell during treatment.
- Tablets can be very palatable, so it is important to keep them well out of reach of your dog.
- If a dose is missed, give straight away if within a couple of hours of normal dosing time, otherwise restart when the next dose is due.

**Storage**
- Store at room temperature and out of reach of dogs. The tablets can be very palatable, and whole bottles may be eaten if they are accessible.

**Speed of Action + Monitoring**
- NSAIDs start working within a few hours. In chronic pain conditions, it can take several weeks for the full benefit to be seen.
- Pain levels should also be closely monitored to be certain no additional treatment is needed.
- With long-term use, intermittent blood testing is routinely recommended to monitor liver and kidney function.

**REMEMBER! READ THE LABEL!**

**General disclaimer**
The authors assume no responsibility for any harm that results from the information provided. Medications are given for a number of different reasons, and they may not be appropriate for specific individuals. Medication and supplements should only be given to your pet under the direct instruction of your veterinarian.

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