




Drug Information: Metronidazole

Name - Active Ingredient

 Metronidazole




Name - Common Trade Names

 Flagyl, generics



Species






Major Indication

-  The treatment of bacterial infection including those affecting the liver, colon, and intestines.
-  Protozoa infections, primarily Giardia.
-  It may help reduce the inflammation associated with inflammatory bowel disease.




Common Contraindications and Warnings

-  Care is needed in animals with advanced liver disease.
-  Should not be used in pregnant or lactating animals.


Potential Side Effects

-  Vomiting, inappetence and lethargy are most common and rarely diarrhea.
-  Other uncommon rare side effects include anorexia, bloody urine, and liver damage.
-  Overdose or long-term treatment can lead to nerve problems including wobbliness, head tilt, stiffness, tremors and seizures.



Administration Instructions/Handling

-  Tablets are bitter, capsules can be easier to give.
-  Giving at the same time as food improves absorption but mixing with food may result in the food not being eaten.
-  If a dose is missed for more than a few hours, give when next due unless advised otherwise.

Storage

-  Protect from light and store at less than 30°C (86°F).

Speed of Action, Duration of Effect + Monitoring

-  Antibiotics start working straight away but it can take several days for an effect to be seen depending on the type of infection and how long it has been present for.
-  If your pet is not recovering then culture and sensitivity testing may be needed (if it has not already been carried out) or the diagnosis re-evaluated.

REMEMBER! READ THE LABEL!

Drug Details

Drug name
Metronidazole

Trade or common names
Flagyl, generics

Drug type
Antibiotic, antiprotozoal (type of parasite)

Used for
Bacterial and protozoa infections

Species
Dog + cat

Formulation
Injectable, tablet, capsule



Notes:

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.