



Ondansetron

OTHER NAMES: Zofran®

USE: Ondansetron is used to treat or prevent severe vomiting.

ADMINISTRATION & DOSING

There are approved tablets for humans that can also be used in animals. This medication is not officially approved for animals. The FDA allows veterinarians to prescribe products containing this drug in different species or for other conditions in certain situations. You and your veterinarian can discuss why this drug is the most appropriate choice.

Please check your pet's medication label for specific dosing instructions.

- The oral tablets drug can be given with food or on an empty stomach.
- This medication should start working within 1 to 2 hours. Its effects are short-lived, meaning they will stop working within 24 hours, although the benefits may be prolonged if your animal has decreased kidney and/or liver function.
- The duration of therapy is variable.
- This medication should be used cautiously in dog breeds that may have an MDR1 mutation, animals with gastrointestinal obstruction/blockage, patients with severe liver disease, or patients with heart rhythm abnormalities.

SIDE EFFECTS

This medication is generally well-tolerated.

Side effects that are typically not serious:

- Constipation
- Head shaking
- Sleepiness or sedation

Contact your veterinarian if any signs are severe, worsen, or remain problematic.

Rare, but serious side effects:

- Low blood pressure (fainting, collapse)
- Heart rhythm problems

If you see any of these signs, immediately contact your veterinarian or an emergency veterinary hospital.

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF ADMINISTERING TOO MUCH MEDICATION (OVERDOSE)

If you witness or suspect an overdose, contact your veterinarian, a local emergency hospital, or an animal poison control center for further advice. Animal poison control centers open 24 hours a day, including the **Pet Poison HELPLINE (855-764-7661)** and **ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center (888-426-4435)**; a consultation fee is charged for these services.

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF A MISSED DOSE

If you miss a dose, give it when you remember. If it is close to the time for the next dose, skip the dose you missed and give it at the next scheduled time. After that, return to the regular dosing schedule. Do not double up or give extra doses.

MEDICATION STORAGE & HANDLING

- Store this medication in the original prescription bottle or an approved dosage reminder container at room temperature and protected from light.
- If your veterinarian or pharmacist has prepared (compounded) a special formulation for your animal, follow the product's storage recommendations and expiration date.
- Keep away from children and other animals.
- Protect oral disintegrating tablets from moisture.
- No specific precautions are required when handling the oral tablet formulations unless you are allergic to them.
- Wash your hands after handling any medication.
- Do not flush this medication down the toilet or wash it down the sink. If a community drug "take-back" program is available, use this option. If there is no take-back program, mix the drug with coffee grounds or cat litter (to make it undesirable to children and animals and unrecognizable to people who might go through your trash), place the mixture in a sealable plastic bag to keep it from leaking out, and throw the bag out with the regular trash.
- Do not save leftover medication for future use or give it to others to use.