



Rivaroxaban

OTHER NAMES: Xarelto®

USE: Rivaroxaban is an oral anticoagulant used to prevent or treat blood clots.

ADMINISTRATION & DOSING

This is an oral medication. There are approved tablets for humans that can be used in animals, too.

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

- This drug can be given with food or on an empty stomach. It is important to administer at the same time(s) every day.
- This medication should ideally be stopped 24 hours before surgery or high-risk procedures.
- This medication should start having effects within 1 to 2 hours; however, you will not see the effects of this medication outwardly. Further tests may be needed to determine if the medication is working appropriately. The effects of this medication 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, but in many cases, this medication is used long-term/lifelong for blood clot prevention.
- This medication is contraindicated/should not be used in patients with uncontrolled bleeding, severe liver disease, or severe kidney disease.

SIDE EFFECTS

This medication is generally safe when used correctly and is well-tolerated in dogs and cats.

Side effects that are typically not serious:

- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- A skin rash or itchiness
- Mild bruising

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

Rare, but serious side effects:

- Uncontrolled or unexpected bleeding
- Severe bruising
- Difficulty breathing
- Collapse
- Low energy level; inability to walk
- Pale gums

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

Administer the next regularly scheduled dose. Consider contacting your veterinarian for additional information.

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.
- No specific precautions are required when handling this medication unless you are allergic to it. 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.

ADDITIONAL DRUG INFORMATION

The FDA (U.S. Food & Drug Administration) has approved this drug for use in humans, but it is not officially approved for use in animals. The FDA allows veterinarians to prescribe and use human products containing this drug in animals in certain situations. You and your veterinarian can discuss why this drug is the most appropriate choice.