



Telmisartan

OTHER NAMES: Micardis®, Semintra®

USE: Telmisartan is used to control high blood pressure in cats and to treat proteinuria in dogs.

ADMINISTRATION & DOSING

This is an oral medication. Oral solutions have been approved for use in cats. The FDA has not fully approved the use of this drug in dogs. However, the FDA allows veterinarians to prescribe products containing this drug for different species or for other conditions in certain situations.

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

- This drug is best given on an empty stomach. It can be given with a small amount of food to increase compliance.
- This drug has caused birth defects and should not be given to pregnant animals. If a human in the household is pregnant, they should be very careful not to touch the medication.
- This medication should start working within 1 to 2 hours. However, its effects are often not observed outwardly. The medication's 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, but in most cases, this medication is used long-term/lifelong.
- This medication is contraindicated/should not be used in severely dehydrated patients, patients with low blood pressure, patients with severe liver disease, or pregnant patients.

SIDE EFFECTS

Side effects that are typically not serious:

- Diarrhea, vomiting, and lack of appetite
- Mildly decreased energy level

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

Rare, but serious side effects:

- Severe decrease in energy level or inability to exercise
- Weakness or collapse

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 next dose, skip the dose you missed and give it at the next scheduled time. Return to the regular dosing schedule. Do not double up or give extra doses.

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.
- Pregnant women should avoid handling this medicine. If this is not possible, disposable gloves should be worn while handling this medication. Don't reuse gloves. Once used, the gloves should be disposed of in the trash.
- 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

Your veterinarian will need to perform periodic blood tests and blood pressure checks on your animal while it takes this medicine. Do not miss these important follow-up visits.

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