



Torsemide

OTHER NAMES: Demadex, Torasemide, UpCard-CA1

USE: Torsemide is a diuretic that works in the kidneys to remove excess fluid (water) from the body in conditions such as heart disease, lung disease, and excessive swelling.

ADMINISTRATION & DOSING

This is an oral medication. The FDA (U.S. Food & Drug Administration) has conditionally approved this medication (oral solution) for use in dogs. 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.
- Have fresh, clean water available at all times for your animal.
- This medication should start having noticeable positive effects within 1 to 2 hours. The medication 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 electrolyte imbalances, patients who are allergic to sulfa drugs, or patients with kidney disease.

SIDE EFFECTS

This medication is often associated with side effects.

Side effects that are typically not serious:

- Increased urination. This is often most obvious when first starting or increasing the dose of the medication.
- Increased water drinking

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

Rare, but serious side effects:

- Hearing or balance issues
- Lack of urination
- Weakness or collapse
- 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

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.

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 or have a known sulfa medication allergy. People with a severe allergy to sulfa medicines should wear disposable gloves when handling the medication. 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

This drug is a very strong diuretic. It can cause kidney failure and change salts (electrolytes) in the blood. Your veterinarian will need to perform periodic examinations and blood tests on your animal while it takes this medicine. Do not miss these important follow-up visits.