# Omeprazole (Prilosec)

*Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff*

Summary

Omeprazole is an antiulcer medication used in dogs anc cats. Give without food, preferably in the morning. Contact your veterinarian if your pet experiences lack of appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, flatulence, changes in urination, or behavior changes while being treated with omeprazole.

Generic Name
Omeprazole

Brand Name
Prilosec

Type of Drug
Antiulcer, gastric acid pump inhibitor

Form and Storage
Tablets and capsules
Store at room temperature. Do not break delayed release tablets.

Indications for Use
Treatment and prevention of ulcers in the stomach and upper intestines.

General Information
Not FDA approved for use in veterinary medicine. Available by prescription. Only recently used in veterinary medicine and little is known about how it affects animals. Omeprazole inhibits acid formation by the stomach by a different mechanism than cimetidine and other histamine $H_2$ receptor antagonists. Not used extensively in veterinary medicine due to cost. In humans, it has a longer duration of action than cimetidine and is more effective at preventing ulcers from non-steroidal anti-inflammatory (NSAID) drugs (e.g., aspirin).

Usual Dose and Administration
Contact your veterinarian for dose information. Duration of treatment depends on reason for treatment and response to treatment. In humans, it is recommended not to treat for longer than 8 weeks.

Side Effects
Appears to be well tolerated in animals. May see lack of appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, flatulence, blood changes, urinary tract infections, protein in the urine, or nervous system disorders.

Contraindications/Warnings
Do not use in patients hypersensitive (allergic) to it.

Do not use in pregnant or nursing animals.

Use with caution in animals with liver disease.

Drug or Food Interactions
May increase effects of diazepam, phenytoin, and warfarin.

May increase risk of bone marrow suppression if used with other drugs that cause it.

Absorption of ketoconazole, ampicillin, or iron and other oral medications may be reduced due to the change in the stomach pH level.

Give before meals, preferably in the morning.

Overdose/Toxicity
Limited clinical experiences with overdoses.



Keep this and all other medications out of the reach of children and pets.

If you think your pet has been poisoned...
Contact your veterinarian or one of the Animal Poison Hotlines (listed below) if you think your pet may have accidentally received or been given an overdose of the medication.
**ASPCA National Animal Poison Control Center
1-888-4ANI-HELP (1-888-426-4435). $65.00 per case, billed to caller's credit card.
Follow-up calls can be made for no additional charge by dialing 888-299-2973.
There is no charge when the call involves a product covered by the Animal Product Safety Service.
**Pet Poison Helpline - 24-hour service available throughout North America for pet owners and veterinary professionals who require assistance with treating a potentially poisoned pet.
1-800-213-6680 ($35.00 per incident). Staffed 24-hours a day.

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