

Product Name: METACAM 0.5 MG/ML ORAL SUSPENSION FOR CATS  
APVMA Approval No: 61575/117070



Label Name:	METACAM 0.5 MG/ML ORAL SUSPENSION FOR CATS AND GUINEA PIGS
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Signal Headings:	PRESCRIPTION ANIMAL REMEDY KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN FOR ANIMAL TREATMENT ONLY
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Constituent Statements:	0.5 mg/mL MELOXICAM
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Claims:	Alleviation of inflammation and pain in both acute and chronic musculo-skeletal disorders such as disco-spondylosis, arthropathy and soft tissue injuries in cats. Alleviation of mild to moderate post-operative pain associated with soft tissue surgery, such as castration, in guinea pigs.
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Net Contents:	3 mL, 15 mL, 30 mL
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Directions for Use:	
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Restrains:	
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Contraindications:	<p>This product is contraindicated for use in pregnant or lactating animals as no data has been established.</p> <p>This product is contraindicated for use in cats less than 6 weeks of age.</p> <p>The product is contraindicated for use in guinea pigs less than 4 weeks of age.</p> <p>This product is contraindicated for use in animals suffering from cardiac, hepatic or clinical renal disease. Especially older cats considered for chronic treatment should be screened for pre-existing renal, hepatic or gastrointestinal disorders or hypovolaemia (using haematology, serum biochemical analysis and urinalysis as necessary), before administration of Metacam 0.5 mg/mL Oral Suspension for Cats and Guinea Pigs.</p> <p>This product is contraindicated for use in animals where there is the possibility of gastrointestinal ulceration or bleeding, or where there is evidence of a haemorrhagic disorder or individual hypersensitivity to the product.</p>
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<p>Precautions:</p>	<p>Metacam 0.5 mg/mL Oral Suspension for Cats and Guinea Pigs should not be administered concurrently with steroidal or other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, aminoglycoside antibiotics or anti-coagulant agents. Concurrent administration of potential nephrotoxic drugs should be avoided.</p> <p>Pre-treatment with anti-inflammatory drugs may result in additional or increased adverse effects and accordingly a treatment-free period with such drugs should be observed for at least 24 hours before commencement with Metacam 0.5 mg/mL Oral Suspension for Cats. The treatment-free period, however, should take into account the pharmacokinetic properties of the drugs used previously.</p> <p>Avoid use in any dehydrated, hypovolaemic or hypotensive animal, as there is a potential risk of renal toxicity.</p> <p>Response to long-term therapy should be monitored at three monthly intervals or more frequently as advised by the veterinarian.</p> <p>Metacam 0.5 mg/mL Oral suspension for Cats and Guinea Pigs should not be used following parenteral injection of meloxicam or any other NSAID as appropriate dosage regimens for such follow-up treatments have not been established.</p> <p>The use of this product in debilitated aged animals may involve additional risk. If use in such animals cannot be avoided careful clinical management may be required.</p>
<p>Side Effects:</p>	<p>In cats typical adverse reactions of NSAIDs such as loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhoea, faecal occult blood, lethargy and renal failure have occasionally been reported and in very rare cases gastrointestinal ulceration and elevated liver enzymes.</p> <p>These side effects are in most cases transient and disappear following termination of treatment but in very rare cases may be serious or fatal.</p> <p>If adverse reactions occur, treatment should be discontinued and the advice of a veterinarian should be sought.</p>
<p>Dosage and Administration:</p>	<p>Shake well before use.</p> <p>Should be administered orally either mixed with food or directly into the mouth around meal times.</p> <p>For 3 mL pack size: Discard unused product 14 days after initial use. For 15 mL and 30 mL pack size: Discard unused product 6 months after initial use.</p> <p>Use in cats: Initial treatment is a single dose of 0.1 mg meloxicam/kg bodyweight on the first day. Treatment is to be continued once daily by oral administration (at 24 hour intervals) at a maintenance dose of 0.05 mg/kg bodyweight.</p> <p>For longer term treatment, once clinical response has been observed (within 7 days), the dose of Metacam can be adjusted to the lowest effective individual dose reflecting that the degree of pain and inflammation associated with chronic musculoskeletal disorders may vary over time. Should longer term treatment be contemplated, the prescribing veterinarian should observe current best practice including, but not limited to, regular monitoring of relevant clinical and biochemical parameters.</p> <p>Particular care should be given with regard to accuracy of dosing. The recommended dose should not be exceeded. Please carefully follow the instructions of the veterinarian.</p>

A clinical response is normally seen within 7 days. Treatment should be discontinued after 14 days at the latest if no clinical improvement is apparent.

The suspension can be given using the drop dispenser of the bottle for cats of any bodyweight. Alternatively for cats with a bodyweight over 2 kg the Metacam measuring syringe (provided in the package) can be used.

Use in guinea pigs:

Initial treatment is a single oral dose of 0.2 mg meloxicam/kg bodyweight on day 1 (pre-surgery). Treatment is to be continued once daily by oral administration (at 24-hour intervals) at a dose rate of 0.1 mg meloxicam/kg bodyweight on days 2 and 3 (post-surgery).

The suspension should be given directly into the mouth using a standard 1 mL syringe graduated with a mL scale and 0.01 mL increments.

0.1 mg meloxicam/kg bodyweight = 0.2 ml/kg bodyweight

0.2 mg meloxicam/kg bodyweight = 0.4 ml/kg bodyweight

Use a small container (e.g. a teaspoon) and drop Metacam oral suspension into the container (it is advised to dispense a few more drops than required into the container). Use a standard 1 mL syringe to draw up Metacam according to the bodyweight of the guinea pig. Administer Metacam with the syringe directly into the mouth of the guinea pig. Wash the small container with water and dry prior to the next use.

Do not use the cat syringe with the kg-bodyweight scale and the cat pictograms for guinea pigs.

General Directions:

Composition

Each mL contains 0.5 mg meloxicam; one drop contains 0.017 mg meloxicam.

Action

Meloxicam is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) compound of the oxicam group which acts by inhibition of prostaglandin synthesis. Meloxicam exerts antiinflammatory, anti-exudative, analgesic and antipyretic effects. It inhibits leukocyte infiltration into the inflamed tissue and prevents bone and cartilage destruction. To a minor extent it also inhibits collagen-induced thrombocyte aggregation.

Overdose in cats:

In the event of an overdose, adverse reactions are expected to be more severe and more frequent.

In case of overdosing a symptomatic treatment should be initiated.

Overdose in guinea pigs:

In guinea pigs, an overdose of 0.6 mg/kg body weight administered during 3 days followed by a dose of 0.3 mg/kg during 6 additional days did not cause adverse events typical for meloxicam. The safety of doses exceeding 0.6 mg/kg has not been evaluated in guinea pigs.

Withholding Periods:

Trade Advice:

Safety Directions:

First Aid Instructions:	If poisoning occurs, contact a doctor or Poisons Information Centre. Phone Australia 131126.
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First Aid Warnings:	
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Additional User Safety:	
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Environmental Statements:	
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Disposal:	Dispose of empty container by wrapping with paper and putting in garbage.
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Storage:	Store below 25°C (Air Conditioning).
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