

Piroxicam

Feldene® is another name for this medication.

How Is This Medication Useful?

Piroxicam is used in dogs to treat pain and inflammation, due to osteoarthritis or to treat cancers. Piroxicam is commonly known as an “NSAID” (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug).

Are There Conditions or Times When Its Use Might Cause More Harm Than Good?

Piroxicam should not be used in animals who are allergic to it or severely allergic to other drugs like it.

Use this drug very cautiously, if at all, if your pet has active stomach or gastrointestinal ulcers or has had these kinds of ulcers in the past. Piroxicam may make these ulcers worse or reappear.

Speak with your veterinarian if your dog is taking any of the following medications: Other anti-inflammatory drugs such as aspirin or corticosteroids (e.g., prednisone, methylprednisolone, dexamethasone, carprofen, Rimadyl®, Previcox®, deracoxib, Dermaaxx®, Zubrin®, Oncior®, etc.); furosemide (Lasix..), digoxin, methotrexate, sulfa drugs or oral antidiabetic drugs.

If your animal has or has had heart, kidney or liver problems, talk to your veterinarian about the risks of giving your dog piroxicam.

It is not known if piroxicam is safe to give pregnant, lactating or breeding dogs. Talk to your veterinarian before using this drug in those animals.

What Side Effects Can Be Seen With Its Use?

Piroxicam is safe to use in the vast majority of dogs and cats, and the risk of side effects occurring appear to be less than 1%. But rarely, serious side effects and sometimes death have been noted.

The most commonly reported side effects in dogs taking piroxicam are usually related to the gastrointestinal system. This may present as decreased appetite, vomiting (including blood in the vomit), diarrhea, or blood in the stools. If you note any of these, stop giving piroxicam and contact your veterinarian.

Piroxicam may also affect the kidneys or the liver. Tell your veterinarian immediately if your dog's water intake or urinary habits have changed or if you see yellowing of the gums, skin or white of the eyes. Also immediately contact your veterinarian if your dog is lethargic (lacks energy).

How Should It Be Given?

The successful outcome of your animal's treatment with this medication depends upon your commitment and ability to administer it exactly as the veterinarian has prescribed. Please do not skip doses or stop giving the medication. If you have difficulty giving doses consult your veterinarian or pharmacist who can offer administration techniques or change the dosage form to a type of medication that may be more acceptable to you and your animal.

Some other drugs can interact with this medication so tell your veterinarian about any drugs or foods that you currently give your animal. Piroxicam should not be administered with diuretics in most cases. Do not give new foods or medications without first asking your veterinarian.

Pets usually receive this medication once a day or every other day by mouth. If you are giving this drug every day and you miss a dose of this medication, you should give it either as soon as you remember or with the next dose. If giving this drug every other and you miss a dose, give the dose as soon as you remember it, and then resume every other day. Do not double a dose, as this can be toxic to your dog.

Giving this medication with food might reduce the chances of stomach problems occurring.

What Other Information Is Important About This Medication?

Keep the tablets stored in the original prescription vial at room temperature; do not expose them to high heat.

Keep this medication away from children.