

CLORAZEPATE

Tranxene and Gen-xene are other names for this medication

Why has my veterinarian prescribed this medicine?

Clorazepate is used to relieve anxiety, as a hypnotic-sedative agent and to control for seizures. In dogs, clorazepate is often administered with phenobarbital and used to help treat convulsions. Clorazepate is a benzodiazepine. This class of medicines is used to slow down the nervous system.

How do I give this medication?

- Give this medication to your pet as directed by your veterinarian. Read the label carefully.
- If the medicine is a liquid, measure the dose with reasonable care.
- Try to give this medication at about the same time each day.
- **DO NOT** give the pet more medicine than directed and do not give more often than directed.

What do I do if I miss giving a dose?

Give the dose as soon as you remember, then continue with the regular schedule, even if the next dose is soon after. Do not give the pet two doses at once, as this may be toxic to your pet.

How do I store this medicine?

- Keep this medicine out of reach of children.
- Store this medicine in a cool, dry place at room temperature, and away from heat and direct sunlight.
- Do not store this medicine in the bathroom, near the kitchen sink or in damp places. The medicine may break down if exposed to heat or moisture.

Potential Side Effects

- The most common side effects include – drowsiness and failure of muscular co-ordination. These effects occur infrequently, are mild and usually pass with time.
- This medication should be used cautiously in dogs displaying fear-induced aggression, as it can make things worse.
- This drug should not be given to animals with glaucoma or liver disease.
- This drug should not be given to animals with myasthenia gravis, as it can make things worse.
- Other side effects may occur. If you notice anything unusual, contact your veterinarian.

Possible Drug Interactions

- Make sure to tell your veterinarian what other medication you are giving to your pet.
- The following drugs can potentially interact with clorazepate: other CNS depressants such as
 - pain medications such as hydrocodone and morphine
 - other antiseizure drugs such as felbamate or phenobarbital
 - antacids such as cimetidine (Tagamet), ranitidine (Zantac), famotidine (Pepcid) or omeprazole (Prilosec)
 - antibiotics such as erythromycin, and rifampin.

- If your pet needs to take clorazepate and an antacid, administer the medicine two hours apart. Contact your veterinarian if your pet experiences any unusual reactions.

What Else Should I Know About this Medication?

- Clorazepate is available in a sustained release formula, but it does not work well in dogs – it still has to be given three times daily to be effective.
