

Please read this information prior to starting the NSAID

Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) are one of the most powerful medications available for veterinary use to control pain. NSAIDs are commonly prescribed for chronic pain conditions such as osteoarthritis and also for acute pain following surgical or dental procedures.

Veterinary NSAIDs are safe and effective with proper use; however, as with all medications, there are potential side effects and adverse reactions. Most notably, these uncommon NSAID adverse reactions can include stomach upset and even ulcers, kidney damage, and, very rarely, liver damage.

To help minimize the chances of such problems, especially when the drug is used for a longer term, we recommend periodic lab tests to assess red blood cells, kidney, and liver function. Be sure to administer the medication only as directed, and call us if you have any questions or concerns at all.

Do NOT give your dog or cat human-specific, over-the-counter pain relievers or prescription pain medicines; do NOT mix this medication with other NSAIDs; and do NOT give any NSAID along with prednisone or other steroid. Inform us of any over-the-counter

No question should go unanswered. Please contact our office with any questions or concerns, no matter how insignificant they may seem.

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nutritional supplements you may give your pet because there may be interactions with NSAIDs. Do not start any new over-the-counter supplements without our approval while your pet is on NSAIDs. Keep out of reach of children.

While on NSAIDs, please watch your dog for any of the following signs:

- Decrease in appetite or not eating meals
- Vomiting
- Change in bowel habits (diarrhea; black, tarry, or bloody stools)
- Change in behavior (decreased activity, incoordination, seizure, or aggression)
- Yellow color of the gums, skin, or whites of the eyes
- Change in urination habits (frequency, color, or odor)

If you see any of these signs in your dog, immediately discontinue the use of the NSAID and contact our office or an emergency hospital as soon as possible. The severity of the adverse effect can often be mitigated by careful observation for the above signs, stopping the use of the NSAID, and pursuing proper treatment.