

# Walker Veterinary Hospital

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## ANTACIDS, ORAL

### ***Why has my veterinarian prescribed this medicine?***

Antacids are used to neutralize excess acid (decrease the amount of acid) in the stomach. Antacids can be used for inflammation of the esophagus, excessive acid in the stomach, peptic ulcer and inflammation of the stomach. In patients with kidney failure, antacids may be used to decrease the amount of phosphate in the blood.

### ***How do I give this medication to my pet?***

- Give this medication to your pet as directed by your veterinarian.  
**READ THE LABEL CAREFULLY.**
- If the medicine is a liquid, measure the dose accurately.
- Try to give this medication at about the same time each day.
- **DO NOT** give the pet more medicine than directed.
- **DO NOT** give the medicine more often than directed.
- Try not to miss giving any doses.



### ***What do I do if I miss giving my pet a dose?***

Give the dose as soon as possible. If it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose, and continue with the regular schedule. Do not give the pet two doses at once. Contact your veterinarian if you miss giving doses two or more days in a row.

### ***How and where do I store this medicine?***

- Keep this medicine out of reach of children.
- Store this medicine in a cool, dry place at room temperature. Store 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.

### ***What side effects should I be aware of?***

- Your pet may experience constipation if you are using aluminum or calcium containing antacids and diarrhea and/or loose stools with magnesium containing antacids.
- Other side effects may occur. If you notice anything unusual, contact your veterinarian.

### ***Are there any possible drug interactions?***

- Make sure to tell your veterinarian what other medication you are giving to your pet.
- Quite often your veterinarian may prescribe two different medications, even if a drug interaction may occur. In this case, your veterinarian may vary the dose and/or monitor your pet more closely.

- The following are examples of medicines that can potentially interact with oral antacids: tetracycline, chlordiazepoxide, captopril, chloroquine, cimetidine, corticosteroids, digoxin, iron salts, indomethacin, isoniazid, ketoconazole, nitrofurantoin, pancrelipase, penicillamine, phenothiazines, phenytoin, ranitidine, sodium polystyrene sulfonate, aspirin, quinidine and valproic acid.
- Contact your veterinarian if your pet experiences any unusual reactions when different medications are given together.

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*This client information sheet is based on material written by Rita Ozolins, B.Sc., Phm.  
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