

Walker Veterinary Hospital

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ATENOLOL

Why has my veterinarian prescribed this medicine?

Atenolol is a beta₁-blocking agent that is used to treat high blood pressure and to correct irregular heartbeat. Atenolol decreases the heart's need for blood and oxygen and therefore reduces the amount of work the heart must do. It also helps the heart beat more regularly.

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(s) 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.
- **DO NOT** stop giving this medication to your pet without first consulting the veterinarian. Call your veterinarian ahead of time if your pet requires refills of the medication.



What do I do if I miss giving 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.

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. 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 are the potential side effects?

- Notify your veterinarian if your pet is very tired, has trouble exercising, develops shortness of breath or cough or if it's attitude or behavior change.
- 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, and a drug interaction may be anticipated. In this case, your veterinarian may vary the dose and/or monitor your pet more closely.
- The following drugs can potentially interact with atenolol: metaproterenol, terbutaline, epinephrine, phenylpropanolamine, anesthetic agents, phenothiazines, furosemide, hydralazine, insulin, calcium channel blockers (verapamil, diltiazem), and prazosin.
- Contact your veterinarian if your pet experiences any unusual reactions when different medications are given together.

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