

# Walker Veterinary Hospital

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## INTERFERON ALFA-2A, HUMAN RECOMBINANT

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

Interferon alfa-2a is used to alleviate the clinical effects of certain viral diseases. It has been used to control the symptoms of non-neoplastic feline leukemia virus and ocular herpes infections in cats. It may also be used to treat certain cancers in dogs and cats.

### ***How do I give this medication?***

- Give this medication to your pet as directed by your veterinarian. **READ THE LABEL CAREFULLY.**
- **DO NOT** shake this medication and keep the medication refrigerated.
- 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.
- Try not to miss giving any doses.

### ***What should 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 the refrigerator in a tight, light resistant container.
- Do not shake.
- Do not expose this medication to high temperatures.

### ***What are the potential side effects?***

- Adverse effects are uncommon if the medication is given orally. When given by injection, reported adverse effects include loss of appetite, anemia, fever, allergic reaction, bone marrow suppression and muscle pain.
- 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 or supplements you are giving to your pet.



- Quite often your veterinarian may prescribe two different medications, even if a drug interaction may be anticipated. In this case, your veterinarian may vary the dose and/or monitor your pet more closely.
- 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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