

DOCTORS FOSTER^{and}SMITH[®] PHARMACY

Patient Information Sheet

PO Box 100, Rhinelander, WI 54501

For questions or to consult with a pharmacist, call 1-800-447-3021

Firocoxib

(Previcox)

Common Drug Name

Firocoxib

Common Brand Names

Previcox

No generic products are available.

Storage

Store at room temperature in a tight, light resistant, childproof container. The chewable form of the drug is appealing to pets and children. Store in a secure area to prevent an accidental overdose.

Uses

Firocoxib is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) in a class called COX-2 inhibitors. It is used in dogs for the relief of pain and inflammation associated with osteoarthritis.

Dose and Administration

Always follow the dosage instructions provided by your veterinarian. If you have difficulty giving the medication, contact your veterinarian.

Firocoxib is given by mouth. It may be given with food to reduce the chance of stomach/intestinal side effects.

For long-term treatment, consult with your veterinarian to use the lowest dose needed to provide relief. For arthritic conditions, it may need to be given periodically for the animal's lifetime.

If you miss a dose, give it as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for the next dose, skip the one you missed and go back to the regular schedule. Do not give 2 doses at once.

This medication should only be given to the pet for whom it was prescribed.

Possible Side Effects

The most common side effect of NSAIDs is

stomach upset, but stomach ulcers may develop, and you may see loss of appetite; vomiting; diarrhea; dark, tarry or, bloody stools; or constipation. Side effects involving the kidney include increased thirst and urination, or changes in the urine color or smell. Side effects involving the liver include jaundice (yellowing of the gums, skin, or eyes). Other side effects may include decreased appetite, pale gums, lethargy, shedding, seizures, incoordination, or behavioral changes. If any of these side effects are observed, stop treatment and contact your veterinarian.

If your pet experiences an allergic reaction to the medication, signs may include facial swelling, hives, scratching, sudden onset of diarrhea, vomiting, shock, seizures, pale gums, cold limbs, or coma. If you observe any of these signs, contact your veterinarian immediately.

Precautions

Not for use in animals who are hypersensitive (allergic) to firocoxib, carprofen (Rimadyl, Novox), aspirin, etodolac (EtoGesic), deracoxib (Deramaxx), meloxicam (Metacam), tepoxalin (Zubrin), or other NSAIDs.

The safety of the drug in breeding, pregnant, or lactating animals (female animals nursing their young) has not been determined.

Do not use in dogs less than 7 pounds of body weight.

Use with extreme caution and continued monitoring in geriatric animals and those with dehydration or stomach, intestinal, liver, kidney, heart, diabetes mellitus or blood disorders.

Do not use in animals with bleeding problems, e.g., von Willebrand's disease.

Consult with your veterinarian regarding the importance of weight control in pets with osteoarthritis, and the physical examinations

and laboratory testing necessary prior to and during treatment with firocoxib.

The use of firocoxib at above the recommended dose in puppies less than 7 months of age has been associated with serious adverse reactions, including death.

Drug, Food, and Test Interactions

Consult with your veterinarian before using firocoxib with any other medications, including vitamins and supplements, other NSAIDs (e.g., aspirin, carprofen (Rimadyl, Novox), etodolac (EtoGesic), deracoxib (Deramaxx), tepoxalin (Zubrin), and meloxicam (Metacam)); steroids (e.g., prednisone, dexamethasone, triamcinolone, Medrol); enalapril, phenylpropanolamine or methotrexate, since interactions may occur.

Use with caution with phenobarbital.

The use of firocoxib in conjunction with cardiac, anticonvulsant, and behavioral medications has not been evaluated.

Signs of Toxicity/Overdose

May see loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, dark or tarry stools, bloody stools, increased thirst, increased urination, pale gums, jaundice (yellowing of gums, skin, or eyes), lethargy, increased respiration (fast or heavy breathing), incoordination, seizures, or behavioral changes.

An overdose or toxicity could be fatal.

If you know or suspect your pet has had an overdose, or if you observe any of these signs in your pet, contact your veterinarian immediately.

For technical assistance or to report suspected adverse reactions, call the manufacturer at 1-877-217-3543.

Keep this and all other medications out of the reach of children and pets.