

## **Client Information Sheet for VETMEDIN® (pimobendan) capsules Temporary Replacement product for VETMEDIN® (pimobendan) chewable tablets**

**Contact your Veterinarian BEFORE administering this product to your dog.**

This Client Information Sheet contains important information about VETMEDIN® (pimobendan) capsule, a product used as a temporary replacement for US FDA-approved VETMEDIN chewable tablets.

VETMEDIN capsules are authorized for marketing in Canada to treat congestive heart failure in dogs. You should read this information before you start giving VETMEDIN capsules and review it each time the prescription is refilled as there may be new information.

This information sheet is provided only as a summary and does not take the place of instructions from your veterinarian. If you have received this product from a pharmacy and not directly from your veterinarian, you should contact your veterinarian to inform them that you have received this replacement product. **Talk with your veterinarian if you do not understand any of this information or if you want to know more about VETMEDIN capsules.**

### **Note to prescribing veterinarians**

The dose administered should be as stated in the FDA approved VETMEDIN chewable tablets package insert, accessible at: <https://dailymed.nlm.nih.gov/dailymed/drugInfo.cfm?setid=5441e5b2-cdc0-477a-bd9a-ec5f8d912281>

### **Why did I receive VETMEDIN capsules?**

Because of a shortage in the supply of the FDA-approved VETMEDIN chewable tablets, the FDA is allowing temporary use of VETMEDIN capsules in the United States.

### **Are VETMEDIN capsules the same as VETMEDIN chewable tablets?**

- The active ingredient in VETMEDIN capsules is pimobendan, just like in VETMEDIN chewable tablets, the US-approved product.
- Both VETMEDIN capsules and VETMEDIN chewable tablets help manage the signs of congestive heart failure.
- You will notice the instructions for use in the VETMEDIN capsules packaging to be slightly different than the instructions for the VETMEDIN chewable tablets. However, both VETMEDIN capsules and VETMEDIN chewable tablets contain the same amount of pimobendan and the dose should be same.

Talk to your veterinarian if you have any questions about your dog's congestive heart failure and the use of VETMEDIN capsules.

### **Are there differences between VETMEDIN capsules and VETMEDIN chewable tablets?**

- VETMEDIN capsules come in a different form than VETMEDIN chewable tablets. Unlike VETMEDIN chewable tablets VETMEDIN capsules cannot be cut or divided.
- If your dog has been getting a dose of VETMEDIN chewable tablets that includes cutting a tablet in half, you will need to use a combination of different strengths of VETMEDIN capsules to maintain the same dose.
- Strength - VETMEDIN capsules are not available in 10 mg strength. The number and strength of VETMEDIN capsules administered may be different than for VETMEDIN chewable tablets. For example, a dog that used to receive 10 mg VETMEDIN chewable tablets should receive two 5 mg VETMEDIN capsules instead.

### **How do I give VETMEDIN® (pimobendan) capsules to my dog?**

VETMEDIN® (pimobendan) capsules should be given to your dog in their mouth (orally) twice a day, about 12 hours apart as directed by your veterinarian. VETMEDIN capsules should be given about 1 hour before feeding. If you have any questions about administration, please contact your veterinarian.

If your dog vomits after being given VETMEDIN capsules, please contact your veterinarian and unless directed otherwise, do not give additional VETMEDIN capsules again until the next scheduled dose.

### **What are some of the possible side effects of VETMEDIN capsules?**

VETMEDIN capsules may cause side effects similar to those seen with VETMEDIN chewable tablets, even at the prescribed dose. Contact your veterinarian immediately if your dog develops a serious or concerning medical problem or side effects while taking VETMEDIN capsules.

The most common side effects of pimobendan-containing products are:

- poor appetite
- lethargy
- diarrhea
- difficulty breathing or coughing
- weakness or difficulty walking
- a rise in heart rate
- vomiting

There are other side effects which may occur with either VETMEDIN capsules or VETMEDIN chewable tablets. For a complete list, ask your veterinarian.

**To report a suspected adverse drug event (side effect) or a product quality problem contact Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health USA Inc. at 1-888-637-4251. Adverse drug events and product quality problems may also be reported directly to FDA by completing the online form available at <http://www.fda.gov/report-animalae> or by requesting a hard copy of the form at 1-888-FDA-VETS.**

### **What if my dog receives more VETMEDIN capsules than what is prescribed?**

Contact your veterinarian immediately.

### **What else should I know about VETMEDIN capsules?**

VETMEDIN capsules are not for use in humans.

You should keep VETMEDIN capsules in a secure storage area out of the reach of children, as well as dogs, cats and other animals to prevent accidental ingestion or overdose.

If VETMEDIN capsules are accidentally ingested by a person, contact a physician. It is important to show the treating physician a copy of the VETMEDIN capsules package insert, label, or this information sheet.

VETMEDIN capsules are non-sympathomimetic, non-glycoside inotropic drug with vasodilative properties.

This information sheet contains a summary of important information about VETMEDIN capsules. For more detailed information about VETMEDIN capsules, talk with your veterinarian.

**Storage Statement:** VETMEDIN capsules should be stored at temperatures below 25°C (77°F) in a tightly closed container.

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