

WARNING

Use with extreme caution with cats with anaemia, liver disease, clotting disorders, anorexia, GI upset, bleeding, low WBC count and platelet counts, or diseases of the immune system.

Use with extreme caution in pregnant or lactating animals. If the dam is receiving Methimazole Spot On, place the young on milk replacer after they have received colostrum.

In addition to monitoring of the thyroid hormone levels, use laboratory tests to check liver and kidney function, and blood cell counts may be performed before starting treatment and then repeated regularly thereafter.

STORAGE

Store below 25 °C (room temperature). Protect from light. Replace cap between applications and store in original container.

PRESENTATION:

1 mL syringe.

READ ENTIRE LABEL BEFORE USE

May cause skin irritation. May cause eye irritation. Danger - Methimazole may damage fertility or the unborn child from repeated exposure. Danger - Methimazole may cause organ damage (endocrine systems) from repeated exposure at high doses.

HANDLING PRECAUTIONS

Avoid skin contact. Avoid contact with eyes. When handling, wear waterproof gloves and eye protection. Wash hands well after use. Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product. Persons with low thyroid function should use extreme care when handling the drug as they may be more susceptible to potential adverse effects of exposure. Persons with a history of severe blood disorders or liver dysfunction should use extreme care when handling this product. It is recommended that care is taken to prevent exposure of young children to the cat (within 1 hour of treatment), to prevent accidental exposure to the drug before it is absorbed through the cat's skin.

FIRST AID

For advice contact the National Poisons Centre – 0800 POISON (0800 764 766) – or a doctor, immediately. If splashed in the eyes, wash out immediately with water. If skin or hair contact occurs, remove contaminated clothing and flush skin and hair with running water.

DISPOSAL

Dispose of used applicators and gloves by wrapping in paper and placing in garbage.

Registered pursuant to the ACVM Act 1997, No. A10271
See www.foodsafety.govt.nz for registration conditions.

Bayer

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KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN
FOR ANIMAL TREATMENT ONLY
RESTRICTED VETERINARY MEDICINE

Methimazole Spot-On™

For the treatment of hyperthyroidism in cats

ACTIVE INGREDIENT:

Each mL contains Methimazole 100 mg (10 % w/v).
Also contains NMP 1 - 10 % w/v



MODE OF ACTION

Methimazole interferes with iodine incorporation into thyroglobulin, thereby inhibiting the synthesis of thyroid hormones. It also inhibits iodinated tyrosyl from coupling to form iodothyronine. Methimazole has no effect on the release or activity of thyroid hormones already formed or in the general circulation.

INDICATIONS

Methimazole Spot-On™ is used to treat and control hyperthyroidism in cats. Hyperthyroidism is a condition in which excess thyroid hormone is produced. Methimazole, the active ingredient, reduces the amount of thyroid T4 hormone produced by the thyroid gland. It will not cure the condition, but will usually control it if given for the rest of the animal's life.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Do not use in cats that are hypersensitive (allergic) to methimazole.

Long term safety of the product has not been assessed.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

The aim of treatment is to initially reduce the total thyroxine concentrations (TT4) to the lower end of the reference range (20-40 nmol/L) and then maintain the TT4 levels within this range.

Haematology, biochemistry and TT4 concentrations should be assessed before initiating treatment and 3, 6, 10 and 20 weeks after initial treatment then checks every 3-6 months are recommended.

The dose should be individually adjusted based on clinical signs and TT4 concentrations. It is advisable to check TT4 levels 10-14 days after any dose adjustment. If the TT4 levels are above the reference range, increase the dose. If the TT4 levels are below the reference range, decrease the dose. The lowest effective dose should be used.

Cats with concurrent kidney disease should be monitored closely and it is recommended to maintain the TT4 in the high normal to just outside the reference range to maintain kidney perfusion.

DIRECTIONS FOR USE

The starting dose is 0.1 mL (10 mg methimazole) once daily in the inside of the pinna of the ear. The dose should be administered at a similar time daily.

Apply using a glove or the finger cot supplied.

Apply to the skin as directed by a veterinarian.

If a dose is missed, apply as soon as possible after the correct time. If it is almost time for the next dose, wait and then start again with the regular dosing schedule. Do not give 2 doses at once. This medication should only be given to the cat for which it was prescribed.

Dose increases should not be made in increments >0.05 mL (5 mg methimazole).

If doses of more than 0.15 mL (15 mg methimazole) per day are required animals should be monitored particularly carefully.

The dose administered must not exceed 20 mg/day.

Pharmacokinetics show this to be a once daily drug, it is very unlikely that cats will require twice daily dosing.

ADVERSE EFFECTS

If side effects are seen, they tend to occur in the first three months of treatment. Possible side effects include:

1. Lack of appetite, vomiting, or depression. These signs usually occur within the first two weeks of treatment and may stop even if treatment is continued.
2. Liver disease resulting in the above signs, as well as yellowing of the gums, skin, or eyes; or scratching which causes sores especially around the neck. These less common effects may necessitate stopping the medication and treating hyperthyroidism with surgery or radioactive iodine therapy.
3. Unusual tiredness, with elevated temperature, and with signs of bruising or bleeding.
4. Myasthenia gravis may develop in some rare cases. This is a neuromuscular condition that results in muscle weakness and may cause difficulty in swallowing.
5. Self-induced injuries due to scratching may occur.
6. An allergic reaction to methimazole has been seen. The signs may include facial swelling, hives, scratching, sudden onset of diarrhoea, vomiting, shock, seizures, pale gums, cold limbs, or coma.
7. Neutropenia can occur in rare cases; the drug should be stopped in these cases, the cats monitored closely and antibiotic coverage provided.

If you observe any of the signs listed above or have any concerns about your cat's health, contact your veterinarian immediately.