

# Sulfadimethoxine with Ormetoprim

(sul-fa-dye-meth-ox-zeen with or-met-ohe-prim)

**Category:** Potentiated Sulfonamide Antibiotic

**Other Names for this Medication:** Primor®

**Common Dosage Forms: Veterinary:** (Sulfadimethoxine/Ormetoprim) 120 mg (100 mg/20 mg), 240 mg (200 mg/40 mg), 600 mg (500 mg/100 mg), & 1200 mg (1000 mg/200 mg) tablets.

**Human:** None.

This information sheet does not contain all available information for this medication. It is to help answer commonly asked questions and help you give the medication safely and effectively to your animal. If you have other questions or need more information about this medication, contact your veterinarian or pharmacist.

## Key Information

- ▶ Sulfadimethoxine with ormetoprim is an antibiotic usually used once a day in dogs.
- ▶ Sulfadimethoxine with ormetoprim may be given by mouth with or without food. If your pet vomits or acts sick after receiving the drug on an empty stomach, try giving the next dose with food or a small treat. If vomiting continues, contact your veterinarian.
- ▶ Allow access to plenty of water at all times; animal must not become dehydrated while getting this drug.
- ▶ Usually tolerated well but many side effects are possible.
- ▶ Contact your veterinarian if your dog's eyes develop a discharge or become red and irritated.

## How is this medication useful?

Sulfadimethoxine with ormetoprim is an antibiotic combination used to treat a variety of bacterial infections in dogs.

The FDA (U.S. Food & Drug Administration) has approved this drug for use in dogs. You and your veterinarian can discuss why this drug is the most appropriate choice.

## What should I tell my veterinarian to see if this medication can be safely given?

Many things might affect how well this drug will work in your animal. Be sure to discuss the following with your veterinarian so together you can make the best treatment decisions.

- ▶ Other drugs can interact with this antibiotic combination, so be sure to tell your veterinarian and pharmacist what medications (including vitamins, supplements, or herbal therapies) you give your animal, including the amount and time you give each.
- ▶ Tell your veterinarian about any conditions or diseases your pet may have now or has had in the past.
- ▶ If your animal has been treated for the same disease or condition in the past, tell your veterinarian about the treatment and how well it did or didn't work.
- ▶ If your animal is pregnant or nursing, talk to your veterinarian about the risks of using this drug.
- ▶ Tell your veterinarian and pharmacist about any medication side effects (including allergic reactions, lack of appetite, diarrhea, itching, hair loss) your pet has developed in the past.

## When should this medication not be used or be used very carefully?

No drug is 100% safe in all patients, but your veterinarian will discuss with you any specific concerns about using this drug in your animal.

This drug **SHOULD NOT** be used in patients that:

- ▶ Are allergic to sulfa drugs or ormetoprim.
- ▶ Have severe liver disease or blood cell problems.
- ▶ Are dehydrated.

This drug should be used **WITH CAUTION** in:

- ▶ Doberman pinschers, which appear to be very susceptible to a serious immune-related condition (poly-systemic immune complex disease) that can be caused by sulfa drugs; many veterinarians avoid using this drug combination in this breed.
- ▶ Patients with liver, kidney, or thyroid disease.
- ▶ Animals that have or have had kidney or urinary bladder stones. These patients may be at higher risk for new stones developing when taking this drug combination.
- ▶ Animals that are old, sick, weak, or frail.

If your pet has any of these conditions, talk to your veterinarian about the potential risks versus benefits.

## What are the side effects of this medication?

### **Common, but usually not serious side effects include:**

- ▶ Dogs: Reduced appetite, vomiting, loose stools, and diarrhea.

You don't have to be overly concerned if you see any of these signs unless they are severe, worsen, or continue to be a problem. Contact your veterinarian if this happens.

### **Side effects that may be serious or indicate a serious problem:**

- ▶ Increased blinking, eye rubbing, and development of red eyes or eye discharge may indicate the development of dry eye syndrome (keratoconjunctivitis sicca; KCS).
- ▶ Difficulty urinating and/or blood in urine.
- ▶ Red, irritated skin, skin sores, severe itching, and/or loss of fur.
- ▶ Increased thirst and urination.
- ▶ Swollen face.
- ▶ Lack of energy, tiredness.
- ▶ Difficulty walking or weakness.
- ▶ Yellowing of the skin, eyes, or gums (jaundice).

If you notice any of these signs, contact your veterinarian immediately.

## If my pet gets too much of this medication (an overdose), what should I do?

If you witness or suspect an overdose, contact your veterinarian or an animal poison control center for further advice. Animal poison control centers that are open 24 hours a day include: **Pet Poison HELPLINE** (855-764-7661) and **ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center** (888-426-4435); a consultation fee is charged for these services.

### How should this medication be given?

For this medication to work, give it exactly as your veterinarian has prescribed. It's a good idea to always check the prescription label to be sure you are giving the drug correctly.

- ▶ May be given with or without food. If your pet vomits or acts sick after receiving the drug on an empty stomach, try giving the next dose with food or a small treat. If vomiting continues, contact your veterinarian.
- ▶ Compounded liquid forms of this medication must be measured carefully. Your veterinarian or pharmacist can help by providing special measuring spoons or syringes.
- ▶ If you have difficulty getting your animal to take the medicine, contact your veterinarian or pharmacist for tips to help dosing and reducing the stress of medication time.
- ▶ This medication can be given for various lengths of time. Be sure you understand how long your veterinarian wants you to continue giving this medication. Prescription refills may be necessary before the therapy will be complete. Before stopping this medication, talk to your veterinarian, as there may be important reasons to continue its use.

### What should I do if I miss giving a dose of this medication?

Unless it is within 12 hours of the next scheduled dose, give the antibiotic when you remember and give the next dose at the regular time. If it is within 12 hours of the next scheduled dose, give the dose and skip the next dose. Then restart at the scheduled times.

### How should I store this medication?

- ▶ Store tablets at room temperature. Store in the original prescription bottle or an approved dosage reminder (ie, pill minder) container; protect tablets from moisture.
- ▶ If your veterinarian or pharmacist has made (compounded) a special formulation for your animal, follow the storage recommendations and expiration date for the product.
- ▶ Keep away from children and other animals.

### Can handling this medication be hazardous to me, my family, or other pets?

People with severe allergies to sulfa compounds should avoid handling it or wear disposable gloves when giving it. Wash hands after handling any medication.

### How should I dispose of this medication if I don't use it all?

- ▶ Do not flush this medication down the toilet or wash it down the sink. If a community drug "take-back" program is available, use this option. If there is no take-back program, mix the drug with coffee grounds or cat litter (to make it undesirable to children and animals and unrecognizable to people who might go through your trash), place the mixture in a sealable plastic bag to keep it from leaking out, and throw the bag out with the regular trash.
- ▶ Do not save left over medication for future use or give it to others to use.

### What other information is important for this medication?

- ▶ Your veterinarian may wish to do tests to measure and monitor tear production, blood cell counts, and thyroid function while your animal is receiving this medication.
- ▶ Use of this drug may not be allowed in certain animal competitions. Check rules and regulations before entering your animal in a competition while this medication is being administered.

**If you have any other questions or concerns about this medication, contact your veterinarian or pharmacist.**