

Robenacoxib (Cats)

(roe-ben-ah-cox-ib)

Category: Nonsteroidal antiinflammatory Agent (NSAID)

Other Names for this Medication: Onsior®

Common Dosage Forms: **Veterinary:** 6 mg (yeast flavored) 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

- ▶ NSAID approved for cats for short-term treatment (up to 3 days) of pain. Using for longer periods may increase risks.
- ▶ May be given with or without food, but giving with food may help prevent stomach upset. Do not split tablets.
- ▶ When the drug is used as directed on the label, most cats tolerate the drug well. Side effects are usually mild, but serious side effects can occur.
- ▶ If any of the following are seen, stop the drug and contact your veterinarian immediately: Decrease in appetite, vomiting, changes in bowel movements (eg, diarrhea, constipation, color), changes in drinking or urination habits (eg, frequency, amounts, smell), changes in behavior (eg, depression, restlessness), seizures, or jaundice (yellowing of gums, skin, or whites of the eyes).

How is this medication useful?

The FDA (U.S. Food & Drug Administration) has approved robenacoxib for the control of pain and inflammation associated with orthopedic surgery, spaying, and neutering in cats weighing 5.5 lb (2.5 kg) or more and at least 6 months of age for up to 3 days maximum. 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 robenacoxib, 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.

The drug's "Information for Cat Owners" (USA product) states that this drug **SHOULD NOT** be used in cats:

- ▶ That are allergic to it or similar compounds such as other NSAIDs (eg, meloxicam) or aspirin.
- ▶ That weigh under 5.5 lb or are less than 6 months of age.
- ▶ Not eating well or have a complete lack of appetite.
- ▶ With bloody stool or vomit.
- ▶ Presently taking aspirin, other NSAIDs (eg, meloxicam), or corticosteroids (eg, prednisolone).
- ▶ With kidney or liver problems.
- ▶ With conditions that can cause dehydration.

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

- ▶ That are pregnant or nursing as safe use has not yet been determined.

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

What are the side effects of this medication?

The following is adapted from the product (Onsior®) information sheet for cat owners and the drug label: Robenacoxib may cause some side effects in individual cats. These are normally mild, but serious side effects have been reported in cats taking non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), including this one. Serious side effects can result in death. It is important to stop the medication and contact your veterinarian immediately if you think your cat may have a medical problem or side effect while on the drug. If you have additional questions about possible side effects, talk with your veterinarian or call Elanco Animal Health at 1-888-545-5973.

Look for the possible following side effects that may indicate that your cat is having a problem:

- ▶ Decrease in appetite.
- ▶ Vomiting.
- ▶ Change in bowel movements such as diarrhea or change in stool color.
- ▶ Change in drinking or urination.
- ▶ Change in behavior, such as depression or restlessness.
- ▶ Yellowing of gums, skin, or whites of the eyes (jaundice).
- ▶ Seizures.

If any notice any of the above in your cat, stop administering the drug and call 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.

- ▶ The drug may be given either with food or on an empty stomach, but giving with food or a small treat may help prevent stomach upset.
- ▶ Do not split or break tablets.
- ▶ Do not give to cats for more than 3 days.
- ▶ If you have difficulty getting your animal to take the medicine, contact your veterinarian or pharmacist for tips to help with dosing and reducing the stress of medication time for both you and your cat.
- ▶ This medication can be given for various lengths of time, so be sure you understand how long your veterinarian wants you to continue giving it.

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

If you miss a dose, give it when you remember, but if it is close to the time for the next dose, skip the dose you missed and give it at the next scheduled time. After that, return to the regular dosing schedule. Do not double-up or give extra doses.

How should I store this medication?

- ▶ Store this medication in the original prescription bottle or an approved dosage reminder container (ie, pill minder) at room temperature and protected from light.
- ▶ 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?

There are no specific precautions required when handling this medication unless you are pregnant or allergic to it. Wash your hands after handling any medication. Pregnant women, especially those close to term, should be very careful not to accidentally take it, avoid inhaling any dust from split or crushed tablets and wash their hands well after handling the tablets.

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?

- ▶ The USA product's label states that this drug should only be used up to a maximum of 3 days in cats.
- ▶ 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.