

# Trilostane

(try-low-stane)

**Category:** Adrenal Steroid Synthesis Inhibitor

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

**Common Dosage Forms: Veterinary:** Oral Capsules: 5 mg, 10 mg, 30 mg, 60 mg, & 120 mg. **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

- ▶ Trilostane is used to help with signs of hyperadrenocorticism (Cushing's disease) or disorders related to excess adrenal gland hormones. It is important to note that this drug minimizes signs and is not a cure.
- ▶ Give this medication exactly as your veterinarian has prescribed. Do not change the dose or stop the drug before talking with your veterinarian.
- ▶ Best given in the morning with food, unless otherwise directed by veterinarian. If a dose is missed, give the prescribed dose at the regular dosing time the next day.
- ▶ Contact your veterinarian immediately if your pet stops eating or drinking, or acts sick.

## How is this medication useful?

Trilostane is used to lower excess stress hormone levels released by the adrenal glands due to a condition known as hyperadrenocorticism (also known as Cushing's disease) in dogs and sometimes in cats. It is important to note that this drug is not a cure for this condition, but it minimizes signs related to it (eg, excessive thirst, urination, panting, and appetite; pot belly; thin skin and hair coat; poor wound healing).

The FDA (U.S. Food & Drug Administration) has approved this drug for use in dogs with hyperadrenocorticism. The FDA allows veterinarians to prescribe products containing this drug in different species or for other conditions in certain situations. Trilostane may also be used to treat other adrenal gland hormone imbalances (eg, Alopecia X, atypical Cushing's disease).

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 trilostane, 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 it.
- ▶ That are pregnant.

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

- ▶ With kidney or liver problems.
- ▶ Who are sick or weak, and those undergoing surgery.

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?

Most dogs can tolerate the side effects of the drug, but more than 50% may develop adverse effects especially at the start of treatment.

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

- ▶ Tiredness, low energy level.
- ▶ Vomiting, diarrhea, or loss of appetite.

If any of these signs occur, stop treatment and contact your veterinarian as soon as possible for instructions.

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

If you witness or suspect an overdose or your animal is showing signs such as excessive drowsiness, trouble walking, muscle tremors or rigidity, seizures, immediately 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.

- ▶ Trilostane should be given in the morning with food.
- ▶ 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.
- ▶ Do NOT split or crush capsules.
- ▶ This medication is usually given for a long time; often for life. Do NOT change your animal's dose or stop the drug without advice from your veterinarian.

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

If it is within a few hours of when the dose was due, give the medication and then give the prescribed dose at the next regular dosing time. Otherwise, skip the dose for the day and give the prescribed dose at the next regular dosing time. Do not give a double dose the next day.

### How should I store this medication?

- ▶ Store this medication in the original prescription packaging at room temperature. Remove the medication from the foil packaging only when ready to give to your pet.
- ▶ 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 medication out of reach of children and other animals.

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

Trilostane capsules usually do not require any special safety handling precautions. The manufacturer states: Wash hands after use.

Do not empty capsule contents and do not attempt to divide (split) the capsules. Do not handle the capsules if pregnant or trying to become pregnant.

### 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 have you monitor your dog's weight, water consumption, appetite, and frequency of urination. Because improvements in physical appearance (pot belly, haircoat) occur over many months, photographs can be taken before treatment to more readily see improvements with time.
- ▶ While your pet is receiving trilostane, your veterinarian will want to monitor blood work regularly to ensure your pet is receiving the correct dose. For your pet's safety, do not miss these important follow-up visits.

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