

Ivermectin with Pyrantel Pamoate and Praziquantel (Dogs)

(eye-ver-mek-tin with pi-ran-tel pam-oh-ate and pra-zi-kwon-tel)

Category: Antiparasitic

Other Names for this Medication: Iverhart Max®, QuadriGuard®

Common Dosage Forms: Veterinary: Dogs: Chewable Oral Tablets: Ivermectin/Pyrantel/Praziquantel: 34 mcg/28.5 mg/28.5 mg, 68 mcg/57 mg/57 mg, 136 mcg/114 mg/114 mg, & 272 mcg/228 mg/228 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

- ▶ Antiparasitic combination that is used in dogs to prevent heartworm disease and for the treatment and control of roundworms, hookworms, and tapeworms.
- ▶ Can be offered to the dog by hand or added to a small amount of dog food. It is best if the dog chews the tablet before swallowing. If your dog normally swallows treats whole (without chewing), you can break the tablet into pieces and feed the pieces to the dog.
- ▶ Overdoses can be serious; keep chewable and flavored tablets out of reach of children and animals.
- ▶ Usually well tolerated. If you see any signs of central nervous system toxicity (see adverse effects section below), contact your veterinarian immediately.
- ▶ Dispose of unused product carefully; it is toxic to fish and wildlife.

How is this medication useful?

The drug combination of ivermectin, pyrantel pamoate, and praziquantel is used in dogs to prevent heartworm disease and for the treatment and control of roundworms, hookworms, and tapeworms. The FDA (U.S. Food & Drug Administration) has approved this drug for use in dogs. The FDA allows veterinarians to prescribe and use products containing this drug in different species or for other conditions in certain situations. 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 medications can interact with this drug 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 may have 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. Ivermectin with pyrantel is considered safe to use during pregnancy; however, the safe use of the combination product that also contains praziquantel has not been evaluated.
- ▶ 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 dogs that are allergic to pyrantel, praziquantel, ivermectin, or other avermectin drugs.

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

- ▶ In dogs under 8 weeks old.
- ▶ In sick, weak, frail, or underweight dogs, and dogs weighing less than 10 lb.
- ▶ In animals that have not first tested negative for heartworm infection. When ivermectin is given to animals with immature heartworms, a severe reaction can occur.

In any of these cases, talk to your veterinarian about the possible risks versus benefits of the medication.

What are the side effects of this medication?

When the drug is used as directed, side effects are uncommon.

Reported side effects, which are usually not serious, include:

- ▶ Vomiting, diarrhea, decreased appetite, licking lips, and belching (burping).
- ▶ Tiredness, lack of energy, limpness, salivation (drooling), and shaking.

You do not have to be overly concerned if you see any of these unless they are severe, are persistent, or worsen. Contact your veterinarian if this happens.

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

Overdoses of ivermectin containing products can be very serious, especially in dog breeds that may have the *ABCB1-1Δ (MDR-1)* genetic mutation. Signs of toxicity can include include: coma, seizures, weakness, clumsiness, dilated (big) pupils, trembling, excessive salivation/drooling/foaming, lethargy (tiredness, lack of energy), dog pressing its head against the wall, and blindness. 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.

- ▶ Remove only one chewable tablet at a time from the foil-backed blister card. Return the card with the remaining chewable tablets to its box to protect the product from light.
- ▶ Because most dogs like to eat these tablets, they can be offered by hand or be added to a small amount of dog food. It is best if the dog chews the tablet before swallowing. If your dog normally swallows treats whole (without chewing), you can break the tablet into pieces and feed the pieces to the dog.
- ▶ Be sure your dog eats the complete dose. Watch your dog for a few minutes after dosing to be sure that part of the dose is not rejected or spit out. If it is suspected that any of the dose has not been eaten, giving another dose is recommended.
- ▶ If you have difficulty getting your animal to take the medicine, contact your veterinarian or pharmacist for tips to help with dosing and to reduce the stress of medication time.
- ▶ This medication is given on a monthly basis. Be sure you understand how long your veterinarian wants you to continue giving this medication (eg, year round or specific months). 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?

If you miss a dose, give it when you remember and then wait the amount of time between doses recommended by your veterinarian before giving another dose. Do not double up or give extra doses. When using this drug combination for heartworm prevention: If more than 8 weeks in a row have passed without giving the medication, start giving it as soon as you remember and then give every 30 days. If this occurs, it is recommended to have your animal tested for heartworm infection 6 months later to ensure the break in treatment did not cause your animal to become infected.

How should I store this medication?

- ▶ Store this medication in the original prescription container or an approved dosage reminder container (ie, pill minder) at room temperature and protected from light.
- ▶ Keep away from children and other animals, especially the chewable or flavored forms of the drug.

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 allergic to it. Wash your hands after handling any medication.

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

- ▶ Dispose of ivermectin with pyrantel and praziquantel carefully as it is toxic to fish, turtles, and other wildlife.
- ▶ 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 leftover medication for future use or give it to others to use.

What other information is important for 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.