

# Imidacloprid with Moxidectin, Topical (Cats, Ferrets)

(ih-mid-oh-kloe-prid with mox-i-dek-tin)

**Category:** Agent to Treat & Control Fleas, Ear mites, & Intestinal Parasites; Heartworm Prevention

**Other Names for this Medication:** Advantage Multi® for Cats

**Common Dosage Forms: Veterinary:** 10% Imidacloprid, 1% Moxidectin topical liquid. Available in 3 sizes based on cat's body weight: 2-5 lbs. (0.23 mL), 5-9 lbs. (0.4 mL), 9-18 lbs. (0.8 mL).

**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

- ▶ Topical product to prevent heartworm infection and to treat and control fleas, ear mites, hookworms, and roundworms.
- ▶ When used as directed on the label, imidacloprid with moxidectin is safe in most cats and ferrets.
- ▶ Do not let animal lick treated area; keep other pets and children away from treated animals until the area has dried (about 30 minutes).
- ▶ Dispose of empty containers and any unused product carefully.

## How is this medication useful?

The combination of imidacloprid and moxidectin for topical use (Advantage Multi® for Cats) is used monthly for the prevention of heartworm infection, to treat flea and ear mite infestations, and to treat and control hookworms and roundworms in cats. This product may also be used monthly for prevention of heartworm infection and to treat flea infestations in ferrets.

The FDA (U.S. Food & Drug Administration) has approved this drug for use in cats and kittens that are at least 9 weeks of age and weigh at least 2 lbs. (0.9 kg) and ferrets weighing 2.0-4.4 pounds. 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 used on my cat?

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 cause problems when taken with this product, 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 on:

- ▶ Cats that are allergic to it or allergic to other avermectin drugs (eg, ivermectin, selamectin).
- ▶ Dogs. The cat formulation of this product contains different drug concentrations and will not be effective for dogs.

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

- ▶ Old and/or underweight.
- ▶ Sick, weak, or frail.
- ▶ Pregnant, lactating, or used for breeding; safety has not yet been established for these cats.
- ▶ Less than 9 weeks of age or weigh less than 2 lbs.; safety in these animals has not yet been established.

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?

When used as directed on the label cats usually tolerate this product very well.

### **Side effects that usually are not serious include:**

- ▶ Mild behavioral changes (eg, hiding, excessive grooming, pacing).
- ▶ Redness, itching, and discomfort at application site.
- ▶ Excessive salivation (drooling).
- ▶ Excessive thirst.

You don't have to be overly concerned if you see any of these 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:**

- ▶ Lethargy (prolonged sleeping, trouble waking up).

If you see 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 either by topical application or ingestion, contact your veterinarian or an animal poison control center for further advice. Animal poison control centers that are

open 24 hours a day include: **ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center** (888-426-4435) and **Pet Poison HELPLINE** (855-764-7661); 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.

- ▶ Do not apply to irritated skin.
- ▶ Remove applicator from child-resistant package. Hold applicator upright and snap applicator tip away from face and body. Place applicator tip through parted animal's hair, down to skin level, between the shoulder blades, and near the base of the neck. Squeeze applicator to apply entire contents in a single spot to the animal's skin. Superficial application to the animal's hair will cause treatment to not work. Only one applicator per treatment is needed. (Modified from the Advantage Multi® for Cats label)
- ▶ Avoid contact with treated area until dry.
- ▶ This medication can be administered for various lengths of time, so be sure you understand how often and for how long your veterinarian wants you to continue giving it. You may need to get refills before the therapy will be complete.
- ▶ **WARNING:** For the first 30 minutes after application, be sure that cats cannot lick the product from the application sites on themselves or on other treated pets. Treatment at the base of the head will minimize the chance for ingestion by grooming. Separate treated pets from one another to reduce the risk of accidental ingestion. If dogs are treated in the household with the dog product, do not let cats lick the product.

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

The product should be administered one month at a time. If a dose is missed and a 30-day interval between doses is exceeded, administer it immediately and resume the monthly dosing schedule. If you are replacing another heartworm preventive product with Advantage Multi® for Cats, the first treatment with Advantage Multi® for Cats should be given within one month of the last dose of the former medication.

Do not double-up or give extra doses unless instructed to do so by your veterinarian.

### How should I store this medication?

- ▶ Store unused pipettes in the original child-resistant container and outer box only. Keep product at temperatures between 4°C (39°F) and 25°C (77°F); avoid excess heat or cold.
- ▶ Keep away from children and other animals.

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

- ▶ The product label states: Causes eye irritation. Harmful if

swallowed. Do not get in eyes or on clothing. Avoid contact with skin. Wash hands thoroughly with soap and warm water after handling. If contact with eyes occurs hold eyelids open and flush with copious amounts of water for 15 minutes. If eye irritation develops or persists, contact a physician. If swallowed, call poison control center or physician immediately for treatment advice. Have person sip a glass of water if able to swallow. Do not induce vomiting unless told to do so by the poison control center or physician. People with known hypersensitivity to benzyl alcohol, moxidectin, or imidacloprid should administer the product with caution.

- ▶ In case of allergic reaction, contact a physician. If contact with skin or clothing occurs, take off contaminated clothing. Wash skin immediately with plenty of soap and water. Call a poison control center or physician for treatment advice.
- ▶ For the first 30 minutes after treatment, do not allow children or other pets to come into contact with treated animals.
- ▶ Disposable gloves are not required (not mentioned on label), but they may be considered when applying this medication.

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

- ▶ Dispose of this product carefully, as it is can be toxic to fish, turtles and other wildlife.
- ▶ If there is any medication left call your local solid waste agency or 1-800-CLEANUP for disposal instructions. Never place unused product down any indoor or outdoor drain. Recommend putting the empty container in a sealed plastic bag before placing in trash or offer for recycling if available.
- ▶ Do not save left over medication for future use or give it to others to use.

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

- ▶ Cats may experience drooling, tremors, vomiting, and decreased appetite if administered by mouth or if the drug enters the mouth through grooming (licking) of the application site.
- ▶ Stiff, matted hair or a damp, oily appearance of the hair may be observed at the application site on some cats. This is temporary and does not affect the safety and effectiveness of the product.
- ▶ Shampooing 90 minutes after treatment does not reduce the effectiveness of the product in the prevention of heartworm disease.
- ▶ Shampooing or water immersion 4 days after treatment will not reduce the effectiveness of the product in the treatment of flea infestations. However, shampooing as often as once weekly may reduce the effectiveness of the product against fleas.

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