

Ballston Spa Veterinary Clinic
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BROMIDES – POTASSIUM BROMIDE

Why has my veterinarian prescribed this medicine?

Bromides are used to help control seizures in dogs and cats. It may be used alone or with other medication such as phenobarbital to help control seizures.

How do I give this medication?

- Give this medication to your pet as directed by your veterinarian. **READ THE LABEL CAREFULLY.**
- If the medicine is a liquid, measure the dose with reasonable care using an oral syringe or other accurate measuring device.
- Try to give this medication at about the same time each day.
- **DO NOT** give the pet more medicine than directed and do not give more often than directed.
- **DO NOT** stop giving this medication to your pet unless directed by your veterinarian. Call your veterinarian ahead of time if your pet needs a refill.
- Try not to miss giving any doses.



What if I miss giving a dose?

Give the dose as soon as possible. If it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose, and continue with the regular schedule. Do not give the pet two doses at once.

How do I store this medicine?

- Keep this medicine out of reach of children.
- Store this medicine in a cool, dry place at room temperature. Store away from heat and direct sunlight.
- Do not store this medicine in the bathroom, near the kitchen sink or in damp places. The medicine may break down if exposed to heat or moisture.

What are the potential side effects?

- The most noted side effect is drowsiness, which may last up to three weeks. This side effect occurs most often when the bromide is given together with phenobarbital.
- Other side effects may include nausea, excessive thirst, excessive appetite, muscle incoordination, depression, and unequal size of the pupils of the eye. Notify your veterinarian if symptoms are troublesome and continue.
- If your pet experiences extreme drowsiness, stupor, tremors or muscle pain, contact your veterinarian.
- Other side effects may occur. If you notice anything unusual, contact your veterinarian.

Are there any possible drug interactions?

- Make sure to tell your veterinarian what other medication you are giving to your pet.
- Quite often your veterinarian may prescribe two different medications, even if a drug interaction may occur. In this case, your veterinarian may vary the dose and/or monitor your pet more closely.
- The following drugs can potentially interact with bromides: diuretics (e.g. furosemide), halothane anesthesia, central nervous system sedating drugs, and changes in the amount of salt in your pet's diet.
- Contact your veterinarian if your pet experiences any unusual reactions when different medications are given together.

*This client information sheet is based on material written by Rita Ozolins, B.Sc., Phm.
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