

Glycopyrrolate

(gly-koe-pye-roe-late)

Category: Anticholinergic/Antimuscarinic

Other Names for this Medication: Robinul-V®, Robinul®, Robinul Forte®

Common Dosage Forms: Veterinary: 0.2 mg/mL Injection. **Human:** 1 mg & 2 mg Tablets; 1 mg/5 mL (0.2 mg/mL) oral solution.

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

- ▶ Because this medication can cause dry mouth, be sure your animal has access to plenty of fresh, clean water at all times.
- ▶ Can be given with or without food. If your pet vomits or acts sick after receiving the drug on an empty stomach, try giving the next dose with food or a small treat. If vomiting continues, contact your veterinarian.

How is this medication useful?

Glycopyrrolate can be used to treat heart rates that are too slow and decrease secretions (eg, saliva or stomach acid). It is sometimes used to treat toxic or side effects of some other medications, including some muscle relaxants. Glycopyrrolate is most commonly administered by a veterinarian as an injection, but sometimes it is given by mouth using tablets.

The FDA (U.S. Food & Drug Administration) has approved this drug for use in dogs, cats, and humans. 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 cause problems when taken with glycopyrrolate. Be sure to tell your veterinarian and pharmacist what medications (including vitamins, supplements, or herbal therapies) you are giving your animal, as well as the amount and schedule of 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:

- ▶ With severe heart failure, asthma, heart block, slow heart rates, or animals in shock.
- ▶ With a history of an allergic reaction to this medication.

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

- ▶ With infections of the stomach or intestines.
- ▶ With serious liver or kidney problems.
- ▶ That are old or very young.
- ▶ With thyroid problems.
- ▶ Males with enlarged prostates.
- ▶ With esophageal reflux or regurgitation.
- ▶ With heart problems.

If your animal matches any of these conditions, talk to your veterinarian about the possible risks of using the drug versus the benefits.

What are the side effects of this medication?

Common but not serious side effects include:

- ▶ Faster heart rates or a dry mouth. Be sure to allow your animal access to plenty of fresh, clean water at all times.
- ▶ Trouble urinating (straining), constipation, or vomiting.

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

- ▶ Collapse (passing out), weakness, low energy level. These effects do not occur commonly and usually means the dose is too high for your animal.

Contact your veterinarian immediately if you notice these signs.

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

Overdoses of glycopyrrolate can be serious. If you witness or suspect an overdose in your animal, 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.

- ▶ Oral glycopyrrolate can be given with or without food. If your animal vomits or acts sick after receiving it on an empty stomach, give it with food or a small treat to see if that helps. If vomiting continues, contact your veterinarian.
- ▶ Compounded liquid forms of this medication must be measured carefully. Your veterinarian or pharmacist can help by providing special measuring spoons or syringes.
- ▶ If you have difficulty getting your animal to take the medicine, contact your veterinarian or pharmacist for tips to help dosing and reducing the stress of medication time.
- ▶ If you want to stop giving the medication before the prescription is completed, first contact your veterinarian. There may be an important reason to continue giving the medication until it's gone.

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?

- ▶ Glycopyrrolate tablets should be stored in the original prescription bottle or an approved dosage reminder container (ie, pill minder) that is child- and light-resistant, at room temperature.
- ▶ If your veterinarian or pharmacist has made (compounded) a special formulation for your animal, follow the noted 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 allergic to it. Wash your hands after handling any medication.

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?

- ▶ Use of this drug may not be allowed in certain animal competitions. Please check the rules for your pet's sport before entering it in a competition while you are giving it this medication.

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