

Isoflupredone (Horses)

(eye-so-floo-preh-done)

Category: Injectable Glucocorticoid

Other Names for this Medication: Predef® 2X

Common Dosage Forms: Veterinary: 2 mg/mL injection. **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

- ▶ Injectable (IM; shot into the muscle) glucocorticoid (steroid) used for its anti-inflammatory and immunosuppressive effects.
- ▶ Adverse effects become more likely the longer the medicine is used and when used at higher doses.

How is this medication useful?

Isoflupredone is a potent glucocorticoid (steroid) that can be used in horses for its anti-inflammatory and immunosuppressive effects.

The FDA (U.S. Food & Drug Administration) has approved this drug for use in horses, cattle, and swine. The FDA does allow 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 drugs can interact with this drug, 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 animal 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 animal 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 horses:

- ▶ That are allergic to it.
- ▶ That have a severe systemic fungal infection.

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

- ▶ That are pregnant or nursing. It can cause birth defects, induce delivery (ie, parturition and abortion), and affect milk production.
- ▶ That are young and growing (especially when used for prolonged periods).
- ▶ With low blood potassium.

If your animal has any of these conditions, talk to your veterinarian about the potential risks versus benefits.

What are the side effects of this medication?

Isoflupredone side effects in horses are more likely to occur when it is used for prolonged therapy especially in higher doses.

Common but not serious side effects include:

- ▶ Abnormal fat distribution, abnormal hair growth or areas of abnormal hair shedding, increased thirst, increased need to urinate, lack of energy, excessive sweating.
- ▶ Low thyroid levels. Your veterinarian will check for this if your horse is showing signs of equine Cushing's disease.

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:

- ▶ Constipation or lesser than normal fecal production.
- ▶ Delayed wound healing.
- ▶ "Steroid wash out" or "steroid let down" syndrome, especially in racing horses after the season is completed. Lack of thrift, depression, weight loss, and poor hair coat may be seen.
- ▶ Laminitis.
- ▶ Infection.

If you see any of these signs, contact your veterinarian immediately.

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

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.
- ▶ Isoflupredone is injected into muscle (IM); veterinarians may also inject it into joints (intra-articularly or IA). Be sure you know the proper technique and locations for giving injections into the muscle (IM) of your horse.

- ▶ Measure doses carefully.
- ▶ Use a new needle and syringe for each injection; do not reuse needles and syringes.
- ▶ If you have difficulty getting your horse to accept the injections, contact your veterinarian.
- ▶ This medication can be given for various lengths of time. Be sure you understand how long your veterinarian wants you to continue giving this medication. 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, 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?

- ▶ Store this medication in the original vial at room temperature and protected from light.
- ▶ 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 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 leftover medication for future use or give it to others to use.

What other information is important for this medication?

- ▶ If you are injecting this medication at home, place used needles and syringes in a sharps disposal container immediately after they have been used. Your veterinarian or pharmacist will help you obtain these containers. Be careful not to accidentally stick yourself; do not attempt to disconnect the needle from the syringe. Keep containers out of reach of children and animals. Once about $\frac{3}{4}$ full, dispose containers according to your community guidelines. Check with your local trash removal services or health department (listed online and in the city or county government [blue] pages in your phone book or online) to see which disposal methods are available in your area.
- ▶ 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.