

Rabacfosadine

(*ra-bak-fos-ah-deen*)

Category: Chemotherapy Drug

Other Names for this Medication: Tanovea®-CA1

Common Dosage Forms: **Veterinary:** 16.4 mg vial. **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 dog. If you have other questions or need more information, contact your veterinarian or pharmacist.

Key Information

- ▶ Used to treat lymphoma in dogs.
- ▶ Given as a 30-minute infusion once every 3 weeks.
- ▶ Side effects include appetite loss, diarrhea, and increased susceptibility to infections.
- ▶ Avoid contact with bodily fluids and waste for 5 days after administration. Wear chemotherapy-resistant protective gloves when cleaning urine, feces, or vomit.
- ▶ Availability is restricted in some areas.

How is this medication useful?

The FDA (U.S. Food & Drug Administration) has conditionally approved this drug only for treating lymphoma in dogs. This designation means there is a reasonable expectation that the drug is effective, but it is still being tested. **In the US, it is illegal to use this medication other than as directed in the drug's labeling** (package insert).

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 may interact with this medication, so be sure to tell your veterinarian and pharmacist what medications (including vitamins, supplements, or herbal therapies) you give your dog, including the amount and time you give each.
- ▶ Tell your veterinarian about any conditions or diseases your dog 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 did not 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 dog has developed in the past.
- ▶ Ask your veterinarian what this drug is expected to do and how long it will take to know if it is working.
- ▶ Ask if a recheck appointment is necessary.

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:

- ▶ Animals that are allergic to it.
- ▶ Animals with scarring (fibrosis) of the lungs or a history of chronic lung problems.
- ▶ West Highland white terriers (genetically susceptible to pulmonary fibrosis).
- ▶ Pregnant or lactating dogs or dogs intended for breeding purposes.

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

- ▶ Other terrier breeds (other than West Highland white terriers) that may be susceptible to pulmonary fibrosis.

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

What are the side effects of this medication?

Side effects that usually are not serious include:

- ▶ Vomiting and diarrhea.
- ▶ Low energy level.
- ▶ Decreased appetite.
- ▶ Weight loss.
- ▶ Skin irritation or sores.

If any of these signs are severe, worsen, or continue to be a problem, contact your veterinarian.

Side effects that may be serious or indicate a serious problem:

- ▶ Refusal to eat for more than 1 day.
- ▶ Repeated vomiting or diarrhea; blood in vomit or stool.
- ▶ Difficulty breathing.
- ▶ Unexplained bleeding or pale gums.

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

How should this medication be given?

This drug is only given by a 30-minute infusion into the vein, at a veterinary hospital. This medication is given every 3 weeks for up to 5 treatments. Be sure you understand how long your veterinarian wants to continue giving this medication. If you want to stop treatment, talk to your veterinarian, as there may be important reasons to continue giving it.

What should I do if I cannot make a scheduled treatment visit?

This drug must be dosed very carefully. Contact your veterinarian for further instructions if you are unable to make a scheduled treatment.

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

This drug is a chemotherapy drug and can cause serious adverse effects in people or animals exposed to it. Rabacfosadine may also be found in the treated animal's saliva, urine, or feces for up to 5 days after your dog receives it. Take the following protective measures during these 5 days:

- ▶ Do not let your dog urinate or defecate where people or other animals may come in contact with urine or stool.
- ▶ Wear disposable chemotherapy-resistant protective gloves when disposing of feces or cleaning up urine spills or vomit, and wash your hands afterward. Seal waste and gloves in a plastic bag, and discard in household trash.
- ▶ Wash any clothing soiled with your dog's feces, urine, saliva, or vomit separately from other laundry.
- ▶ Do not let treated animals lick human skin.

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.