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Serum, Autologous: Ophthalmic

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What is ophthalmic autologous serum?



Ophthalmic autologous serum is a blood-derived product used to treat corneal ulcers

of the eye in animals. The serum is part of the blood and is collected directly from the patient. Once the veterinary team collects the blood from your pet, the serum is separated for use.

It is used “off label” or “extra label”. Many drugs are commonly prescribed for off-label use in veterinary medicine. In these instances, follow your veterinarian’s directions and cautions very carefully.

How do I give my pet ophthalmic autologous serum?

Ophthalmic autologous serum is liquid and delivered in eye drop form.

- Drops are given topically, directly into the eye.
- Wash your hands before giving your pet this medication.
- Do not allow the dropper tip to touch your animal’s eye or any other surface, to prevent contamination.
- If you are administering more than one eye medication to your pet, wait 5 to 10 minutes between each medication. Give eye drops before eye ointments.
- Give this medication to your pet for the entire time prescribed by your veterinarian, even if it appears that your pet is feeling better.

What if I miss giving my pet the medication?

Give the missed dose as soon as you remember and then continue with the regular dosing schedule. Do not give the pet two doses at once.

Are there any potential side effects from ophthalmic autologous serum?

Side effects have rarely been reported with this medication and are often associated with bacterial contamination (e.g., redness, irritation, worsening of ulcer, eye discharge).

Other side effects may occur. If you notice anything unusual, contact your veterinarian immediately.

Are there any risk factors for this medication?

- No risk factors have been reported for this medication.
- Blood collection in animals with blood, clotting, or bleeding disorders should be discussed with your veterinarian and the benefits versus risks thoroughly discussed.

Are there any drug interactions I should be aware of?

No known drug interactions have been reported for this medication.

Be sure to tell your veterinarian about any medications (including vitamins, supplements, or herbal therapies) that your pet is taking before starting any new treatment.

Is any monitoring needed with this medication?

Your veterinarian may schedule a follow-up visit after the course of medication is complete to ensure the condition has been cleared and/or do additional testing to ensure this is the right medication for the type of condition present. In this case, follow your veterinarian's directions.

How do I store ophthalmic autologous serum?

- Store the medication in its original container, protected from light and moisture, in the refrigerator.
- Follow your veterinarian’s recommendations on when to discard this medication.
- Your veterinarian may recommend freezing this medication for future use. Follow your veterinarian’s recommendations on storing and discarding the serum.
- Keep medication out of reach of children and pets.

What should I do in case of emergency?

If you suspect an overdose or an adverse reaction to the medication, call your veterinary office immediately. If they are not available, follow their directions in contacting an emergency facility.

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Corneal Ulcers in Dogs

The cornea is the transparent, shiny membrane that makes up the front of the eyeball. With a corneal ulcer, fluid is absorbed from the tears into the stroma, giving a cloudy appearance to the eye. The most common cause of a corneal ulcer is trauma. Less common causes of corneal ulcers include bacterial infections, viral infections, and oth...

Corneal Ulcers in Cats

This handout outlines corneal ulcers in cats, a painful eye condition often resulting from trauma. Other causes, clinical signs, diagnostic testing, and treatment options are also explained.

Praziquantel

Praziquantel is given on and off label and by mouth or injection to treat various internal parasites in cats, dogs, small mammals, birds, reptiles, and large animals. Do not use in pets that are allergic to it, in puppies less than 3 weeks old, or kittens less than 6 weeks old.

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