

Milbemycin, Otic

(mil-beh-my-sin)

Description:

Topical ear medication for treatment of ear mite infestations

Other Names for this Medication: MilbeMite®

OTIC Solution

Common Dosage Forms:

Veterinary: 0.1% Solution packaged in foil pouches containing two ampules of 0.5 mL each. **Human:** None.

This information sheet does not contain all available information for this medication and has not been reviewed by FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine. This sheet can help answer commonly asked questions but is not a substitute for medical advice. If you have other questions or need more information about this medication, contact your veterinarian or pharmacist.

Key Information

- Topical medication used for elimination of ear mite infestations.
- Labeled for use in cats and kittens 4 weeks of age and older.
- One treatment usually is all that is required; treatment can be repeated in 30 days if recommended by veterinarian.
- Side effects are rare when used according to the package instructions.
- Dispose of package in regular trash. Do not pour unused product down the drain.

How is this medication useful?

The FDA (U.S. Food & Drug Administration) has approved this drug for use in cats and kittens four weeks of age and older for treating ear mite infestations. The FDA allows 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 treatment 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 medication, 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.

How long until I will know if this medication is working, and how long will the effects of this medication last?

This medication should help your animal feel better within 1 to 2 days. Your animal's clinical signs should improve after that time. The effects of this medication are long-lived, meaning they may last for multiple (ie, 4 to 6) weeks, although they may be prolonged if your animal has decreased kidney and/or liver function.

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:

- That are allergic to milbemycin
- That are younger than 4 weeks old

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

- That are used for breeding purposes or those that are pregnant or lactating.

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

What are the side effects of this medication?

No adverse effects have been noted with this medication when used as directed.

If my animal 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 open 24-hours a day include: **Pet Poison HELPLINE** (855-764-7661) and **ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center** (888-4264435); a consultation fee may be charged for these services.

How should this medication be given?

For this medication to work properly, give it exactly as your veterinarian has prescribed. Check the prescription label and package instructions to be sure you are giving the drug correctly.

- Cleaning the ear prior to treatment is not necessary to kill the mites. Follow your veterinarian's recommendations.
- Administer the contents of one ampule into one ear. Use the second ampule for the other ear.
- Open the tube (ampule) by pressing cap down firmly to break seal. Remove cap and check to be sure the tip is open.
- Place the ampule tip into the external ear canal and squeeze the entire contents into the ear. Massage the base of the ear to distribute the medication.
- If you have difficulty administering this medication to your animal, contact your veterinarian or pharmacist for tips to help with dosing and reduce the stress of medication time for both you and your animal.
- 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. If you want to stop giving this medication, talk to your veterinarian, as there may be important reasons to continue giving it.

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 enough 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 prescription bottle between 59°F and 77°F and protected from light.
- If your veterinarian or pharmacist has prepared (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 animals?

- Not for human use. Keep out of reach of children.
- Contact your physician if you have concerns about exposure to this product.

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?

- 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 about this medication, contact your veterinarian or pharmacist.