



RIMADYL

What is Rimadyl?

Rimadyl (pronounced “Rim-a-dill”) is the trade name for carprofen which is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID—the aspirin family of medications). It is used to reduce pain and inflammation due to osteoarthritis in dogs. It is available on the prescription of a licensed veterinarian.

What Are the Symptoms of Osteoarthritis?

Depending on which joints and bones are involved, osteoarthritis (OA) or the painful, destructive inflammation of the cartilage and other parts of the joints, may result in the following changes or signs in your dog:

- Limping or lameness
- Decreased activity or exercise (reluctance to stand, climb stairs, jump or run, or difficulty in performing these activities)
- Stiffness or decreased movement of joints (especially apparent after a period of rest or sleep)

What Kind of Results Does Rimadyl Offer?

Rimadyl can not cure osteoarthritis, but it can relieve the pain and inflammation of OA and improve your dog’s mobility. Naturally, the response will vary from dog to dog, but it can be quite dramatic. In most dogs improvement can be seen in a matter of days (the initial response is due to the alleviation of pain). With time the swelling in the joints will often decrease (this due to the anti-inflammatory effect). If good results are attained, and the Rimadyl is stopped or not given as directed, your dog’s pain and inflammation may come back.

Who Should Take Rimadyl?

Your dog should *not* be medicated with Rimadyl if he/she:

- Has an allergic reaction to carprofen
- Has had an allergic reaction to aspirin or other NSAIDs (for example etodolac or phenylbutazone) resulting in hives, facial swelling or red or itchy skin
- Rimadyl should be given to dogs only. Cats should not be given Rimadyl. Call us immediately if your cat receives some Rimadyl. People should not take Rimadyl—keep this and all medicines out of the reach

of children. Call your physician immediately should you or any of your family accidentally take Rimadyl.

- If your dog has a history of digestive upsets, liver disease, kidney disease, or bleeding disorders, we may wish to run some tests before starting Rimadyl.

What Side Effects May Rimadyl Cause?

Any medicine may have side effects. Serious but rare side effects have been reported in dogs taking NSAIDs, including Rimadyl. They may occur with or without warning and in rare situations can result in death.

The common side effects with NSAIDs generally involve the stomach, or liver and kidneys. If you see any of these possible side effects, stop the Rimadyl and call us:

- Decrease or increase in appetite
- Vomiting
- Change in bowel movements (such as diarrhea, or black, tarry or bloody stools)
- Change in behavior (such as decreased or increased activity level, incoordination, seizure or aggression)
- Yellowing of gums, skin, or whites of the eyes (jaundice)
- Change in drinking habits (frequency, amount consumed)
- Change in urination habits (frequency, color, or smell)
- Change in skin (redness, scabs, or scratching)

It is important to stop therapy and call us immediately if you think your dog has a medical problem or is showing side effects of Rimadyl.

Can Rimadyl Be Given with Other Medications?

It should not be given with other NSAIDs (aspirin, etodolac, etc.) or steroids (cortisone, prednisone, dexamethasone, triamcinolone). If your pet is on any other medicine, ask us if it is safe to give with Rimadyl. It is always best when giving multiple oral medications, to separate their administration by an hour. If you have other questions, you may wish to visit the internet website for Rimadyl:

www.rimadyl.com .

Thank you for this opportunity to serve you!