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## ACEPROMAZINE MALEATE INJECTION



Vedco

A Sterile Solution for Intravenous, Intramuscular or Subcutaneous Injection

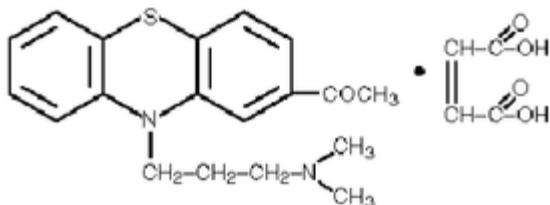
**10 mg/mL**

ANADA 200-361, Approved by FDA

**Caution:** Federal law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.

**Description:** Acepromazine maleate USP, a potent neuroleptic agent with a low order of toxicity, is of particular value in the tranquilization of dogs, cats and horses. Its rapid action and lack of hypnotic effect are added advantages. According to Baker,<sup>1</sup> the scope of possible applications for this compound in veterinary practice is only limited by the imagination of the practitioner.

**Chemistry:** Acepromazine [10-[3-(dimethylamino) propyl] phenothiazin-2-yl-methyl ketone] Maleate, USP has the following chemical structure:



**Actions:** Acepromazine maleate has a depressant effect on the central nervous system and therefore, causes sedation, muscular relaxation and a reduction in spontaneous activity. It acts rapidly, exerting a prompt and pronounced calming effect.

**Indications: Dogs and Cats:** Acepromazine Maleate Injection can be used as an aid in controlling intractable animals during examination, treatment, grooming, x-ray and minor surgical procedures; to alleviate itching as a result of skin irritation; as an antiemetic to control vomiting associated with motion sickness.

Acepromazine Maleate Injection is particularly useful as a preanesthetic agent (1) to enhance and prolong the effects of barbiturates, thus reducing the requirements of general anesthesia; (2) as an adjunct to surgery under local anesthesia.

**Horses:** Acepromazine Maleate Injection can be used as an aid in controlling fractious animals during examination, treatment, loading and transportation. Particularly useful when used in conjunction with local anesthesia for firing, castration, neurectomy, removal of skin tumors, ocular surgery and applying casts.

**Contraindications:** Phenothiazines may potentiate the toxicity of organophosphates and the activity of procaine hydrochloride. Therefore, do not use Acepromazine Maleate Injection to control tremors associated with organic phosphate poisoning. Do not use in conjunction with organophosphorus vermifuges or ectoparasiticides, including flea collars. Do not use with procaine hydrochloride.

**Warning:** Not for use in animals intended for food.

**Precautions:** Tranquilizers are potent central nervous system depressants and they can cause marked sedation with suppression of the sympathetic nervous system.

Tranquilizers can produce prolonged depression or motor restlessness when given in excessive amounts or when given to sensitive animals.

Tranquilizers are additive in action to the actions of other depressants and will potentiate general anesthesia. Tranquilizers should be administered in smaller doses and with greater care during general anesthesia and also to animals exhibiting symptoms of stress, debilitation, cardiac disease, sympathetic blockade, hypovolemia or shock. Acepromazine maleate, like other phenothiazine derivatives, is detoxified in the liver; therefore, it should be used with caution in animals with a previous history of liver dysfunction or leukopenia.

Hypotension can occur after rapid intravenous injection causing cardiovascular collapse.

Epinephrine is contraindicated for treatment of acute hypotension produced by phenothiazine-derivative tranquilizers since further depression of blood pressure can occur. Other pressor amines, such as norepinephrine or phenylephrine, are the drugs of choice.

In horses, paralysis of the retractor penis muscle has been associated with the use of phenothiazine-derivative tranquilizers. Such cases have occurred following the use of Acepromazine Maleate Injection. This risk should be duly considered prior to the administration to male horses (castrated and uncastrated). When given, the dosage should be carefully limited to the minimum necessary for the desired effect. At the time of tranquilization, it is not possible to differentiate between reversible protrusion of the penis (a normal clinical sign of narcosis) and the irreversible paralysis of the retractor muscle. The cause of this side reaction has not been determined. It has been postulated that such paralysis may occur when a tranquilizer is used in conjunction with testosterone (or in stallions).

Accidental intracarotid injection in horses can produce clinical signs ranging from disorientation to convulsive seizures and death.

**Cautions:** A few rare but serious occurrences of idiosyncratic reactions to Acepromazine may occur in dogs following oral or parenteral administration. These potentially serious adverse reactions include behavioral disorders in dogs such as aggression, biting/chewing, and nervousness.

**Administration and Dosage:** The dosage should be individualized, depending upon the degree of tranquilization required. As a general rule, the dosage requirement in mg/lb of body weight decreases as the weight of the animal increases.

Acepromazine Maleate Injection may be given intravenously, intramuscularly or subcutaneously. The following schedule may be used as a guide to IV, IM or SC injections:

**Dogs:** 0.25-0.5 mg/lb of body weight.

**Cats:** 0.5-1 mg/lb of body weight.

**Horses:** 2-4 mg/100 lb of body weight.

IV doses should be administered slowly, and a period of at least 15 minutes should be allowed for the drug to take full effect.

**How Supplied:** Each mL contains 10 mg acepromazine maleate, sodium citrate 0.36%, citric acid 0.075%, benzyl alcohol 1% and water for injection, USP in 50 mL vials.

Store at controlled room temperature, 59°-86°F (15° - 30°C).

**Toxicology:** Acute and chronic toxicity studies have shown a very low order of toxicity.

**Acute toxicity:** The LD<sub>50</sub> dose of acepromazine maleate in mice was determined by means of a probit transformation with the following results:<sup>2</sup>

Intravenous route - 61.37 mg/kg

Subcutaneous route - 130.5 mg/kg

Oral route - 256.8 mg/kg

**Chronic toxicity:** Tests<sup>3</sup> in rats revealed no deleterious effects on renal or hepatic function or on hemopoietic activity. In several groups of two male and two female beagle hounds treated for six months with daily oral doses of 20 to 40 mg/kg, no untoward effects were encountered. Hematologic studies and urinalysis gave values within normal limits. Another group of four dogs, given gradually increasing oral doses up to a level of 220 mg/kg daily and reaching a total daily dose of 2.2 g per dog, showed some signs of pulmonary edema and hyperemia of the internal organs, but no animal died. When administered intramuscularly, Acepromazine Maleate Injection causes a brief sensation of stinging comparable with that observed with other phenothiazine tranquilizers.

**Clinical Data:** Controlled clinical studies in the United States and Canada have demonstrated the effectiveness and safety of Acepromazine Maleate Injection as a tranquilizer.

Good to excellent results were reported<sup>1,4,5</sup> in dogs, cats and horses given Acepromazine Maleate Injection for restraint during examination, treatment and minor surgery and for preanesthetic sedation. In dogs, the drug reportedly<sup>4</sup> helps control convulsions associated with distemper.

In horses, Bauman<sup>6</sup> had good results using the drug as an aid in the control of painful spasms due to colic.

Other practitioners<sup>7,8</sup> found the drug useful as a preanesthetic sedative for nervous or aggressive horses, but it had to be administered while the animals were quiet and not in an excited state. In a trial<sup>9</sup> on more than 200 horses with a wide variety of disorders, Acepromazine Maleate Injection proved to be both effective and safe.

**References:**

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NET CONTENTS:	NDC	
50 mL	50989-160-11	670015L-01-0408

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