

Hydroxyzine HCl

Antihistamine

Hydroxyzine is an antihistamine used to treat allergy related itching and inflammation (Atopic Dermatitis, Atopy). Hydroxyzine is also given to reduce anxiety and increase sedation in pets. This medication has an antiemetic effect that reduces nausea.

Hydroxyzine works by inhibiting the effect of histamine on H1 receptors.

Dosage:

The usual dose for dogs is 1 mg/lb (2 mg/kg) by mouth 2-3 times daily. For cats, the dosage is 0.5-1 mg/lb (1-2 mg/kg), or 5-10 mg/cat every 8 to 12 hours orally. Give with or without food.

It should not be used in pregnant or nursing animals.

Side Effects:

The most common side effects in dogs and cats are sedation and drowsiness. These are generally mild and go away with time. Other side effects noted include increased thirst, lack of appetite and diarrhea. Some animals experience paradoxical excitation and can result in overly excited behavior and muscle tremors. These effects should resolve after repeated doses. Rarely, hydroxyzine can cause seizures in some pets. If a seizure occurs, stop giving hydroxyzine and contact your veterinarian.

Precautions:

Hydroxyzine can cause sedation, urinary retention and constipation, and therefore should be used with caution in older animals. Avoid using this medication in pets with glaucoma, high blood pressure, lung disease and prostate enlargement. Use with caution when given with CNS depressants, tranquilizers, theophylline, selegiline and Preventic Collars (contains monoamine oxidase inhibitors).

How Supplied: It is available as 10mg, 25mg and 50mg tablets.