

Tetracycline is a bacteriostatic antibiotic used by veterinarians for the treatment of infections such as Lyme disease, Chlamydia, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever and bacterial infections caused by susceptible organisms.

### **Availability**

Tetracycline is a prescription medication available as capsules and syrup.

### **How this medicine should be used**

Tetracycline is FDA approved for use in dogs and cats. The usual dose of tetracycline in dogs is 10mg/pound every 8 hours. The usual dose of tetracycline in cats is 9mg/pound every 8-12 hours.

### **Side effects**

Side effects of tetracycline include vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite and drowsiness.

### **Special precautions**

Tetracycline should not be used in animals allergic to it or other drugs in this class. Use with caution in animals with impaired liver or kidney function. Do not use in pregnant, nursing, or growing animals since this medication may cause slowing of bone growth and discoloration of teeth. Give antacids, vitamin and mineral combinations, iron, or Pepto-Bismol at least 1 hour before or 4 hours after giving tetracycline. Use caution when given with digoxin or warfarin. Tetracycline should be given on an empty stomach.

### **In the event of an overdose**

Contact your veterinarian or veterinary emergency room. Symptoms of overdose may include diarrhea, vomiting and lack of appetite.

### **Storage**

Keep this medication in the container it came in, tightly closed. Store at room temperature, away from excess heat, light and moisture. Do not store in the bathroom. Throw away any medication that is outdated or no longer needed. Keep out of the reach of children and pets.