



Codeine

For pain, coughing or diarrhoea

Your vet has prescribed codeine for your pet. It is changed into morphine in the body, which blocks pain signals and calms the cough reflex in the brain. The label on your pet's medicine always comes first, so keep this with it and ask us anything you're unsure about.

What is it used for?

- Easing mild to moderate pain.
- Calming a dry, tickly cough.
- Occasionally, reducing diarrhoea.

How quickly does it work?

- It starts working within an hour.

How do I give it?

- Give exactly as the label says. It can be given with or without food.
- Only use the product we supply. Some human codeine products contain paracetamol, which is poisonous to cats.

What if I miss a dose?

- Give it when you remember, unless the next dose is nearly due. In that case skip the missed one.
- Never give two doses together to catch up.
- If your pet vomits soon after a dose, call us before giving another.

Possible side effects

- Constipation is common.
- Sleepiness, sometimes vomiting.

Monitoring and check-ups

- Your vet will review your pet's comfort and decide how long treatment is needed.

Important things to know

- Tell your vet if your pet has breathing, liver or kidney problems.
- This is a controlled drug. Keep it locked away, never share it, and return any unused medicine to us.
- Tell your vet about any other medicines, supplements or flea and worm treatments your pet has.
- Store safely out of reach of children and other pets. This medicine is for your pet only.

Your questions answered

- **Can I use my own codeine?** No. Human products often contain paracetamol, which is poisonous to cats.
- **Is constipation a problem?** It can be. Tell us if your pet struggles to pass stools.

Call us straight away on 01843 808344 (24/7) if:

- Your pet is very drowsy, hard to wake, or breathing slowly.
- Your pet hasn't passed stools for more than two days or is straining.
- You think your pet (or anyone else) has taken too much.

Mango's Top Tip

A little extra water in the food helps keep things moving while your pet is on codeine.