



Atropine

Eye drops to ease pain and dilate the pupil

Your vet has prescribed atropine for your pet. It relaxes the muscles inside the eye that cause pain when they spasm, and keeps the pupil wide to stop scar tissue forming. 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 pain in some eye conditions, such as uveitis and deep ulcers, by relaxing the muscles in the eye.
- Keeping the pupil open to prevent scarring inside the eye.

How quickly does it work?

- Pain relief often starts within hours. The pupil can stay wide for several days after stopping.

How do I give it?

- Wash your hands, then gently tilt your pet's head back and hold the eyelids open.
- Apply to the eye without touching the tip of the bottle or tube onto the eye or fur.
- If using more than one eye product, wait about five minutes between them, and put drops in before ointments.
- Reward your pet afterwards. A calm, quick routine makes every dose easier.

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.

Possible side effects

- The pupil will stay wide open, sometimes for days after stopping. This is expected.
- Cats may drool or foam at the mouth because the drops taste bitter if they reach the nose and throat. It looks alarming but passes quickly.
- Rarely, dry eye or a fast heartbeat.

Monitoring and check-ups

- Your vet will recheck the eye and may reduce how often the drops are needed as it improves.

Important things to know

- Your pet may be sensitive to bright light, so give them shady spots and keep them indoors on bright days.
- Don't use if your pet has glaucoma unless your vet has said it is safe.
- 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

- **Why is my cat foaming at the mouth?** The drops taste bitter if they drain into the mouth. It is harmless and passes.
- **Will my pet's vision be affected?** Vision may be blurry in bright light while the pupil is wide.

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

- The eye becomes more painful, red or cloudy, or your pet keeps it shut.
- Your pet is rubbing or scratching at the eye.
- You notice any sudden change in your pet's vision.
- Your pet seems restless, has a racing heart or has stopped eating.

Mango's Top Tip

Big pupils mean bright light is dazzling. Close the curtains a little and let your pet choose a snug, shady nap spot.