



Budesonide

A steroid that targets the gut

Your vet has prescribed budesonide for your pet. It is a steroid that is mostly broken down by the liver after it has worked in the gut, so less reaches the rest of the body. 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?

- Treating inflammatory bowel disease and other inflammatory gut problems.
- It works mainly in the gut, which can mean fewer whole-body steroid side effects.

How quickly does it work?

- You may see an improvement in stools within 1 to 2 weeks.

How do I give it?

- Give exactly as the label says, usually once daily.
- Don't crush or chew capsules, as the coating helps them reach the right part of the gut.
- Some formulations are specially made up for pets, so always use the one supplied.

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.
- Don't stop this medicine suddenly unless your vet tells you to.
- If your pet vomits soon after a dose, call us before giving another.

Possible side effects

- Increased thirst, hunger and urination, though usually less than with other steroids.
- Panting, weight gain or thinning skin with long-term use.

Monitoring and check-ups

- Your vet will monitor weight, stools and appetite, and may reduce the dose once the gut settles.

Important things to know

- **Don't stop it suddenly.** Your vet will reduce the dose gradually.
- Don't give with anti-inflammatory painkillers (NSAIDs) unless your vet says so.
- Tell your vet if your pet has diabetes or an infection.
- 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

- **Is it safer than prednisolone?** It usually causes fewer side effects, but it is still a steroid.
- **How long will my pet need it?** It varies. Some pets need it long term at a low dose.

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

- Your pet has black tarry stools, vomits blood or has severe diarrhoea.
- Your pet becomes very weak, wobbly or collapses.
- You think your pet (or anyone else) has taken too much.

Mango's Top Tip

Tummy-friendly food makes a big difference. Stick to the diet your vet recommends, even when those eyes are begging for treats!