

## Smarty Vets Drug Monograph: Maropitant (Cerenia®)

### Description:

Maropitant, commonly known by its brand name Cerenia®, is an antiemetic medication used to prevent and treat vomiting in dogs and cats. It is particularly helpful in preventing motion sickness in dogs and treating acute vomiting in both dogs and cats.

### Dosage Forms:

- Veterinary Tablets: 16 mg, 24 mg, 60 mg, 160 mg
- Injectable Solution: 10 mg/mL

### Key Information:

- **Preventing Motion Sickness:** Administer 3 hours before travel. Give your pet a small meal or snack 2 hours before travel, followed by maropitant 1 hour later.
- **Administration Tips:** Some dogs may vomit after taking maropitant. To reduce this, give medication with a small amount of food. Avoid tightly wrapping the tablet in food treats, as this can interfere with its absorption.
- **Handling Split Tablets:** If you are administering a fraction of a tablet, wrap the remaining portion tightly in foil and store it securely away from children and other animals.
- **Age Restrictions:** Do not use in puppies younger than 8 weeks old, as it may cause bone marrow issues.

### How It Works:

Maropitant works by blocking the neurokinin-1 (NK1) receptors in the brain, which are involved in triggering vomiting. It is highly effective in controlling both acute vomiting and preventing motion sickness in pets.

### When to Contact Your Veterinarian:

Side effects are rare, but if you notice any of the following, contact your veterinarian:

- Excessive drooling
- Lethargy or drowsiness
- Loss of appetite
- Diarrhea
- Pain or swelling at the injection site

### Usage Instructions:

- **For Motion Sickness:** Administer the tablet 2 hours before travel with a small amount of food.
- **For Vomiting:** Administer as prescribed by your veterinarian.

- **Injection:** If using the injectable form, follow your veterinarian's instructions on proper administration techniques.

**Storage:**

Store at room temperature and protect from freezing. Keep out of reach of children and pets.

**Disposal:**

Do not flush or pour unused medication down the sink. If available, use a community drug take-back program or follow safe disposal guidelines by mixing the medication with undesirable substances like coffee grounds or cat litter before sealing it in a plastic bag and discarding it in the trash.

**Precautions:**

Discuss any other medications or supplements your pet is taking with your veterinarian, as maropitant can interact with certain drugs. Use with caution in pets with liver issues, and avoid use in pregnant or nursing animals unless advised by your veterinarian.

**Contact Information:**

If you have any questions or concerns about maropitant or your pet's health, please contact your veterinarian or Smarty Vets at 346-594-8646.