



Guidelines for Responsible Antibiotic Use in Dogs and Cats

To help prevent the emergence of multiple drug resistant bacteria the clinician should always consider the following points:

- Rather than using antibiotics as a precaution, always ask yourself "are antibiotics really needed in this case?"
- If possible, only use antimicrobials when an infection has been documented. Ideally, antimicrobial choices should be made on the results of culture and sensitivity testing, and / or cytology testing, if applicable.
- Consider other treatment options before using systemic antibiotics e.g. cases of surface pyoderma can receive topical treatment.
- Using narrower spectrum antibiotics reduces the selection pressure for resistance in commensal bacteria.
- If antibiotics are not resolving an infection, the diagnosis may be incorrect or there may be an underlying disease process.
- Remember, pyrexia or leucocytosis are not specific for bacterial infection.



Floxabactin®

Active Ingredient:

Enrofloxacin.

Antibiotic class:

Fluoroquinolone

Mode of action:

A concentration-dependent, bactericidal agent which inhibits bacterial replication.

Bacteria likely to be susceptible:

Various Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria, especially those of the Enterobacteriaceae – Escherichia coli, Enterobacter, Klebsiella and Proteus. Staphylococcus aureus and Staphylococcus intermedius are usually susceptible. Pseudomonas aeruginosa is variably susceptible.

Bacteria likely to be resistant:

Streptococci, enterococci and anaerobic bacteria generally can be considered resistant.

Drug Interactions:

- Careful monitoring is recommended if using alongside flunixin, as interaction between the drugs may lead to adverse events related to delayed elimination and if being used alongside theophylline, as serum levels of theophylline may increase.
- Magnesium or aluminium containing substances (such as antacids or sucralfate) may reduce absorption of enrofloxacin.
 These drugs should be administered two hours apart.
- Do not administer simultaneously with tetracyclines, phenicols or macrolides because of potential antagonistic effects.
- Do not administer simultaneously with non-steroidal antiinflammatory drugs, convulsions can occur.

Pharmacological features of note:

- Enrofloxacin is approximately 100% bioavailable after oral administration. It is unaffected by food.
- Enrofloxacin is rapidly metabolized to form an active compound, ciprofloxacin.
- Enrofloxacin is widely distributed in the body the tissue concentrations are often higher than serum concentrations.

Useful Additional Information:

- Retinotoxic effects, including blindness, can occur in cats when the recommended dose is exceeded.
- Use the product with caution in cats or dogs with severe renal or hepatic impairment.
- Pyoderma is mostly secondary to an underlying disease. It is advisable to determine the underlying cause and to treat the animal accordingly.
- Use in pregnancy should be based upon a risk:benefit assessment.
- It is prudent to reserve the fluoroquinolones for the treatment of clinical conditions that have responded poorly, or are expected to respond poorly, to other classes of antibiotics.
- Whenever possible, fluoroquinolones should only be used based on susceptibility testing.



When to Avoid Use:

- Do not use in young or growing dogs (dogs aged less than 12 months (small breed) or less than 18 months (large breed) as the product may cause epiphyseal cartilage alterations in growing puppies).
- Do not use in young, growing cats aged less than 3 months or weighing less than 1kg, because of the possibility of the development of cartilage lesions.
- Do not use in cats or dogs having seizure disorders, as enrofloxacin may cause CNS stimulation.
- Do not use in cats or dogs with known hypersensitivity to fluoroquinolones or to any of the excipients of the product.
- Do not use in case of resistance to quinolones, as there exists almost complete cross resistance to other quinolones and complete cross resistance to other fluoroguinolones.
- Do not use with tetracyclines, phenicals or macrolides because of potential antagonistic effects.
- As Enrofloxacin passes into the maternal milk, use is not recommended during lactation.



- Treatment of lower urinary tract infections (associated or not with prostatitis) and upper urinary tract infections caused by Escherichia coli or Proteus mirabilis.
- Treatment of superficial and deep pyoderma.

Cats (15 mg tablet only):

Treatment of upper respiratory tract infections.



- Hypersensitivity reactions
- Alterations in Central Nervous System

Dogs:

- Possible joint cartilage alterations in growing puppies (see section on when to avoid use).
- In rare cases vomiting and anorexia are observed.

Cats (15 mg tablet only):

Vomiting or diarrhoea may appear during the treatment. These signs regress spontaneously and generally do not require treatment discontinuation.



Floxabactin Dosing

Dogs:

5 mg of enrofloxacin/kg/bodyweight once daily for:

- 10 days in lower urinary tract infections
- 15 days in upper urinary tract infections and lower urinary tract infections associated with prostatitis
- Up to 21 days in superficial pyoderma depending on clinical response
- Up to 49 days in deep pyoderma depending on clinical response

Cats (15 mg tablet only):

- 5 mg of enrofloxacin/kg body weight once daily for 5 to 10 consecutive days.
- Either 1 tablet for 3 kg body weight as a single daily dosing
- Or ½ tablet for 1.5 kg body weight as a single daily dosing

Dosing Advice:

- The treatment should be re-considered in cases with lack of clinical improvement at half of the treatment duration.
- The tablets may be administered directly in the mouth of the dog or cat or simultaneously with food if necessary.
- Do not exceed the recommended treatment dose.





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