Vintage and Alexander-Wallace Veterinary Practice

Allopurinol

Helps prevent urate bladder stones

Your vet has prescribed allopurinol for your pet. It blocks an enzyme the body uses to make uric acid, so less of the material that forms urate stones ends up in the urine. 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?

- Preventing or dissolving urate stones in the bladder, especially in breeds like Dalmatians.
- Occasionally used as part of treatment for some infections, such as leishmaniosis.

How quickly does it work?

- Stones can take weeks to months to dissolve. Your vet will monitor progress.

How do I give it?

- Give with or after food, exactly as the label says.
- It works best alongside a low-purine diet recommended by your vet. Avoid extra treats and table scraps.
- Encourage drinking: fresh water always, and wet food can help dilute the urine.

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

- Occasional stomach upset or reduced appetite.
- Rarely, a different type of stone (xanthine) can form, especially if the diet is not followed.

Monitoring and check-ups

- Your vet will check urine and may take X-rays or scans to monitor stones.
- Urine tests and X-rays or scans are repeated to check the stones and look for new ones.

Important things to know

- Let us know if your pet has kidney or liver disease.
- 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

- **Does my dog need a special diet forever?** Usually, yes. A low-purine diet is the cornerstone of prevention.
- **Can I give treats?** Choose low-purine options your vet approves. Avoid offal, fish and meaty chews.

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

- Your pet strains to pee, passes only drops, or can't pee at all. This is an emergency, especially in male dogs.
- There is blood in the urine or your pet seems in pain.
- You think your pet (or anyone else) has taken too much.

Mango's Top Tip

Hydration is your secret weapon. Pop an extra water bowl somewhere new and add a splash of water to meals.

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All Is Well

General guidance only, not a substitute for veterinary advice. Always follow the instructions on your pet's prescription label.