Vintage and Alexander-Wallace Veterinary Practice

Colchicine

Reduces scarring and inflammation

Your vet has prescribed colchicine for your pet. It calms certain white blood cells and reduces the build-up of scar tissue and abnormal proteins. 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?

- Helping to slow scarring in some liver diseases.
- Treating conditions where abnormal protein builds up in the organs (amyloidosis), for example in Shar Peis.

How quickly does it work?

- It works slowly. Benefits are judged over months.

How do I give it?

- Give exactly as the label says, with food.

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

- Vomiting, diarrhoea or reduced appetite.
- Rarely, reduced blood cell counts.

Monitoring and check-ups

- Regular blood tests are needed.
- Blood cell counts and liver or kidney values are checked regularly.

Important things to know

- Wear gloves to handle it and wash your hands afterwards. Anyone pregnant should not handle it.
- 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 the same as the human gout medicine?** Yes, it is the same drug, used differently in pets.
- **Is it for life?** Often, yes, to slow the disease.

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

- Your pet has severe vomiting or diarrhoea, or blood in either.
- Your pet has a fever, weakness or unusual bruising.
- You think your pet (or anyone else) has taken too much.

Mango's Top Tip

Small, frequent meals can be gentler on the tummy. Ask us whether that's a good option for your pet.

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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.