

Meloxicam

(mel-ox-i-kam)

Key Information

- This is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) that helps relieve pain and inflammation.
- Giving this medication with food may prevent stomach upset.
- Provide access to plenty of drinking water while giving this medication.
- Do not give with any other prescription or over-the-counter anti-inflammatory medications.
- Meloxicam can stay in the body for several days after it is stopped. Do not give other NSAID drugs or steroids for 5 to 7 days afterward.
- Common side effects include vomiting, diarrhea, or mild changes in appetite.

Note: The purpose of this information sheet is to answer commonly asked questions. It does not contain all available information for this medication and is not a substitute for medical advice provided by your veterinary healthcare team.

Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory pain reliever (NSAID) • Available as tablets, capsules, and oral liquid suspensions
Other common names	<i>Loxicom, Meloxidyl, Metacam, Mobic, OstiLox</i>
Uses	<p>FDA-approved uses in animals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treatment of pain and inflammation in dogs due to osteoarthritis <p>At the discretion of your veterinarian, this medication may be used in different species or for other reasons (extra-label use).</p>
Before this medication is given	<p>No medication is 100% safe in all patients. Discuss with your veterinarian:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any other medications or supplements your animal is taking • Any conditions or diseases your animal has now or has had in the past • Any side effects your animal has had to medications in the past • The risks of using this medication if your animal is pregnant or nursing
Warnings for animals	<p>Do not use in patients that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are allergic to it, other NSAIDs, or aspirin • Are taking other NSAIDs, aspirin, or steroids • Are not eating normally <p>Use with caution in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cats • Dogs younger than 6 months old • Elderly patients • Animals that have stomach or intestinal ulcers or have had them in the past • Animals that are vomiting or have diarrhea • Animals that are dehydrated or taking diuretics like furosemide or hydrochlorothiazide • Animals that have kidney, liver, or heart problems • Animals that have a bleeding disorder • Animals that are pregnant, nursing, or used for breeding <p>Certain medications are not allowed in some animal competitions. Check rules and regulations when your animal is taking a medication.</p>
Warnings for humans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wash your hands after handling any medication.

How do I give this medication?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give with food to help prevent stomach upset. • Provide access to plenty of fresh drinking water. Keeping your animal hydrated may reduce the risk for kidney problems. • Shake liquids well before each dose. • Only measure liquids using the syringe or dropper provided with the medication. • When giving liquid meloxicam to animals less than 10 pounds, give the dose on top of a small amount of food. Do not give directly into the mouth. • With long-term use, periodic physical examinations and blood tests are needed to check your animal's liver and kidney function. Do not miss these important follow-up visits. <p><i>Give exactly as your veterinarian has prescribed. Always follow the instructions on the prescription label.</i></p>
Side effects	<p>Common – contact your veterinarian if any of these signs are severe, continue to occur, or worsen over time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vomiting • Diarrhea or soft stool • Decreased appetite <p>Severe – stop the medication and contact your veterinarian immediately if you notice any of these signs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black, tarry, or bloody stools • Bloody vomit, which may be bright red or look like coffee grounds • Changes in activity levels, uncoordinated movement or weakness, seizures, or development of aggression • Changes in drinking or urinary habits • Change in color or smell of urine, especially in cats • Skin changes like redness, scabs, or itchiness • Yellowing of gums, skin, or whites of the eyes (<i>jaundice</i>)
How will I know it's working?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your animal should start feeling better within 1 to 2 days. <p><i>Contact your veterinary clinic if your animal's signs worsen or do not improve.</i></p>
How long will the medication effects last?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The effect of this medication may continue for several days after the last dose. • It may last longer if your animal has reduced liver or kidney function.
How long do I give it for?	<p>This medication can be given for different lengths of time. Give it for as long as your veterinarian tells you. You may need to refill the prescription.</p>
Overdose	<p>If you witness or suspect an overdose, call your veterinarian or an animal-specific poison control center (consultation fee applies):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center: (888) 426-4435 • Pet Poison Helpline: (855) 764-7661 <p><i>Have the product or label with you if possible.</i></p>
Missed dose	<p>In most cases, if you miss a dose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give it when you remember, then return to the regular dosing schedule. <p>If it is close to the time for the next dose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skip the missed dose. • Give the next dose at the next scheduled time. • Continue the regular dosing schedule. <p><i>If you are unsure, call your veterinary clinic. Do not double-up or give extra doses.</i></p>

Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Store in original container at room temperature. • Keep out of reach of children and animals.
Disposal	<p>Do not flush this medication down the toilet or wash down the sink. Options for disposing of unused or expired medications include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Drug take-back sites</u>: This is preferred whenever possible. To find a site near you, contact your local law enforcement or waste management authorities. • <u>Home disposal</u>: Mix the medication in with coffee grounds or kitty litter, seal in a plastic bag, and throw away in the trash. <p><i>Do not save leftover medication or give it to others to use.</i></p>
Questions?	Talk to your veterinarian.