Plumb's®
Drug Handouts

Prescription Label

Patient Name:
Species:
Drug Name & Strength:
Directions (amount to give how often & for how long):

Prescribing Veterinarian's Name & Contact Information:

Refills:

[Content to be provided by prescribing veterinarian]

Antibiotic, Antifungal, and Steroid Combinations (Topical)

Description:
Dermatologic treatment

Other Names for this Medication:
Animax®, Dermalog®, Malacetic Ultra® Panalog®

Common Dosage Forms:
Veterinary: Topical veterinary treatment formulations include creams, ointments, lotions, solutions, suspensions, sprays, flushes, shampoos, and wipes/pledgets. **Human:** Formulations include creams, ointments, lotions, aerosol sprays, solutions, shampoos, powders, foams, and gels.

This information sheet does not contain all available information for this medication and has not been reviewed by FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine. This sheet can help answer commonly asked questions but is not a substitute for medical advice. If you have other questions or need more information about this medication, contact your veterinarian or pharmacist.

Key Information

- Combination of ingredients allows for efficient delivery of multiple medications with each application.
- Prevent your animal from licking or chewing at affected areas for 20-30 minutes after application.
- Do not allow medication to get in your animal's eyes.
- Always wash hands after applying medication, or consider wearing gloves while applying.

How is this medication useful?

Combination topical treatments contain multiple active ingredients, making it easier to treat bacterial and fungal skin infections.

- Antibiotic medications treat superficial bacterial infections of the skin. Antibiotics commonly prescribed in combination treatments include bacitracin, clindamycin, gentamicin, mupirocin, neomycin, polymyxin B, and silver sulfadiazine. Other ingredients that may also be included in these combination products to help fight the infection include acetic acid/boric acid, chlorhexidine, and chloroxylenol.
- Antifungal medications are used to treat ringworm (dermatophytosis) and other yeast infections of the skin. Commonly prescribed antifungal medications include clotrimazole, ketoconazole, miconazole, nystatin, and terbinafine.
- The term "steroids" is commonly used to describe corticosteroids, which are cortisone-like medications that relieve itching and inflammation. Hydrocortisone, betamethasone, mometasone, and triamcinolone are the steroids most often used for topical treatments.

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The FDA (U.S. Food & Drug Administration) has approved many topical combination treatments for use in animals to treat skin infections. The FDA allows veterinarians to prescribe products containing this drug in different species or for other conditions in certain situations. Your veterinarian may prescribe a medication the FDA has approved for use in humans but has not officially approved for use in animals. However, the FDA allows veterinarians to prescribe and use human products containing these drugs in animals in certain situations. You and your veterinarian can discuss why this drug is the most appropriate choice.

What should I tell my veterinarian to see if this medication can be safely given?

Many things might affect how well this drug will work in your animal. Be sure to discuss the following with your veterinarian so together you can make the best treatment decisions.

- Other drugs can interact with this medication, so be sure to tell your veterinarian and pharmacist what medications (including vitamins, supplements, or herbal therapies) you give your animal, including the amount and time you give each.
- Tell your veterinarian about any conditions or diseases your animal may have now or has had in the past.
- If your animal has been treated for the same disease or condition in the past, tell your veterinarian about the treatment and how well it did or didn't work.
- If your animal is pregnant or nursing, talk to your veterinarian about the risks of using this drug.
- Tell your veterinarian and pharmacist about any medication side effects (including allergic reactions, lack of appetite, diarrhea, itching, hair loss) your animal has developed in the past.

How long until I will know if this medication is working, and how long will the effects of this medication last?

This medication should help your animal feel better within 1 to 2 hours. Your animal's clinical signs should improve after that time. The effects of this medication are short-lived, meaning they will stop working within 24 hours.

When should this medication not be used or be used very carefully?

No drug is 100% safe in all patients, but your veterinarian will discuss with you any specific concerns about using this drug in your animal.

This drug **SHOULD NOT** be used in:

- Animals that are allergic to any of the ingredients found in the prescribed drug combination product.
- Animals that have tuberculosis infections of the skin.

This drug should be used **WITH CAUTION** in patients:

- With small body size (eg, toy breeds).
- That require treatment of large areas.

If your animal has any of these conditions, talk to your veterinarian about the potential risks versus benefits.

What are the side effects of this medication?

In dogs and cats, topical skin treatments are typically well tolerated.

Side effects that usually are not serious include:

- Redness or discomfort at the site of application, especially with products that contain alcohol.

You don't have to be overly concerned if you see any of these signs unless they are severe, worsen, or continue to be a problem. Contact your veterinarian if this happens.

Side effects that may be serious or indicate a serious problem:

- Infections that do not respond to treatment, do not appear to be healing, or are getting worse.
- Loss of appetite, vomiting, or diarrhea.
- Development of sores around the mouth.
- Increased thirst (eg, frequent drinking of large quantities of water) and frequent urination.
- Thinning of the skin, progressive hair loss and skin redness, increased skin tears, or infections at the application site.

If you see any of these signs, contact your veterinarian immediately.

If my animal gets too much of this medication (an overdose), what should I do?

An overdose could occur if your animal eats the topical medication, if the treatment area covers a large part of your animal's body, or if too much medicine is applied. If you witness or suspect an overdose, contact your veterinarian or an animal poison control center for further advice. Animal poison control centers that are open 24 hours a day include **Pet Poison HELPLINE** (855-764-7661) and **ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center** (888-426-4435); a consultation fee is charged for these services.

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How should this medication be given?

For this medication to work, give it exactly as your veterinarian has prescribed. It's a good idea to always check the prescription label to be sure you are giving the drug correctly.

- Trim hair at the application site only as necessary.
- Sprays, ointments, creams, lotions, or wipes/pads are typically prescribed to apply to affected areas 1-4 times a day.
- If using a shampoo or conditioner, daily to weekly baths may be prescribed; massage product into hair coat well, and leave in contact with skin for at least 10 minutes before rinsing well with cool water.
- Avoid contact with eyes, mouth, and nose.
- Do not allow animal to lick or chew at affected sites as this will delay healing and possibly introduce more infection to the area. If necessary, your veterinarian may place a collar on your animal to prevent licking and chewing of the area.
- These medicated products can be given for various lengths of time. Be sure you understand how long your veterinarian wants you to continue giving this medication. Prescription refills may be necessary before the therapy will be complete. Before stopping this medication, talk to your veterinarian, as there may be important reasons to continue its use.

What should I do if I miss giving a dose of this medication?

If you miss a dose, give it when you remember, but if it is close to the time for the next dose, skip the dose you missed and give it at the next scheduled time. After that, return to the regular dosing schedule. Do not double-up or give extra doses.

How should I store this medication?

- Store this medication in the original container at room temperature and protected from light.
- If your veterinarian or pharmacist has made (compounded) a special formulation for your animal, follow the storage recommendations and expiration date for the product.
- Keep away from children and other animals.

Can handling this medication be hazardous to me, my family, or other animals?

It is recommended to wear gloves while applying these medicated products; always wash your hands after applying the medication.

How should I dispose of this medication if I don't use it all?

- Do not flush the contents of these products down the toilet or wash it down the sink. If a community drug "take-back" program is available, use this option. If there is no take-back program, mix the contents with coffee grounds or cat litter (to make it undesirable to children and animals and unrecognizable to people who might go through your trash), place the mixture in a sealable plastic bag to keep it from leaking out, and throw the bag out with the regular trash.
- Do not save leftover product for future use or give it to others to use.

What other information is important for this medication?

- Combination ear treatments contain medications that also can be suitable for skin infections.
- Certain skin infections may resolve completely with use of topical treatments, but others may also require oral medications.
- Medications may be absorbed across the skin and have effects throughout the body when applied to large areas or areas with open sores; small animals and patients receiving prolonged treatment may also be affected. Effects on the rest of the body can happen with any topically applied medication; however, the risk is greater with steroids, especially with use of more potent steroids (eg, betamethasone).
- Residual activity from steroid-containing products may affect allergy testing. Unless your veterinarian tells you otherwise, stop using steroid- or antihistamine-containing products 2 weeks before allergy testing.
- Use of this drug may not be allowed in certain animal competitions. Check rules and regulations before entering your animal in a competition while this medication is being administered.

If you have any other questions about this medication, contact your veterinarian or pharmacist.

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