Plumb's Drug Handouts

Mupirocin, Topical

(*myoo-**peer**-oh-sin*)

Key Information

- Mupirocin is a topical antibiotic used to treat bacterial skin infections.
- Do not allow animals to lick or groom the treated area for 20 to 30 minutes after application.
- Avoid getting in your animal's eyes.
- Side effects are uncommon but may include redness or itching at the application site.
- Wash your hands after application.

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	• Topical antibiotic • Available as creams and ointments
Other common names	*Bactroban*, *Centany*, *Muricin*, Pseudomonic Acid A
Uses	FDA-approved uses in animals: • Treatment of bacterial skin infections in dogs At the discretion of your veterinarian, this medication may be used in different species or for other reasons (extra-label use), such as: • Treatment of bacterial skin infections in cats
Before this medication is given	No medication is 100% safe in all patients. Discuss with your veterinarian: • Any other medications or supplements your animal is taking • Any conditions or diseases your animal currently has 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	Do **not** use: • In animals that are allergic to mupirocin or polyethylene glycol • In the eyes • For longer than 30 days Use with **caution**: • On large areas or deep wounds • In animals that are pregnant, nursing, or used for breeding Certain medications are not allowed in some animal competitions. Check rules and regulations when your animal is taking a medication.
Warnings for humans	• Wash your hands after handling any medication. • Wear gloves or avoid handling if you are allergic to mupirocin.
How do I give this medication?	• Cleanse the affected area(s) before application as directed by your veterinarian. • Do not touch the affected area(s) with the tip of the tube to prevent contamination. • Apply enough medication to completely cover the affected area(s) • Avoid getting mupirocin into your animal's eyes. • Do not allow animals to lick or groom the treated area(s) for 20 to 30 minutes after application. *Apply exactly as your veterinarian has prescribed. Always follow the instructions on the prescription label.*

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Side effects	**Common** – contact your veterinarian if any of these signs are severe, continue to occur, or worsen over time: • Pain, redness, or itching at the application site **Severe** – stop the medication and contact your veterinarian immediately if you notice any of these signs: • Increased thirst or urination. These may be signs of kidney problems. • Low energy level, rashes, difficulty breathing, or pale gums. These may be signs of a rare allergic reaction.
How will I know it's working?	• You should see a gradual improvement in your animal's signs throughout the course of treatment. *Contact your veterinary clinic if your animal's signs worsen or do not improve.*
How long will the medication effects last?	• This medication will stop working within 24 hours of the last dose.
How long do I give it for?	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.
Overdose	Overdoses are unlikely when used topically, but side effects or toxicity can occur if the medication is eaten. If this happens, contact your veterinarian or an animal-specific poison control center for further advice (consultation fee applies): • **ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center**: (888) 426-4435 • **Pet Poison Helpline**: (855) 764-7661 *Have the product or label with you if possible.*
Missed dose	In most cases, if you miss a dose: • Give it when you remember, then return to the regular dosing schedule. If it is close to the time for the next dose: • Skip the missed dose. • Give the next dose at the next scheduled time. • Continue the regular dosing schedule. *If you are unsure, call your veterinary clinic. Do not double-up or give extra doses.*
Storage	• Store at room temperature. • Keep out of reach of children and animals.
Disposal	Do not flush this medication down the toilet or wash it down the sink. Options for disposing of unused or expired medications include: • Drug take-back sites: This is preferred whenever possible. To find a site near you, contact your local law enforcement or waste management authorities. • Home disposal: Throw away in the regular trash. *Do **not** save leftover medication or give it to others to use.*
Questions?	Talk to your veterinarian.

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