Plumb's Drug Handouts

Neomycin/Polymyxin B/Bacitracin, Ophthalmic

(***nee***-oh-***mye***-sin/***pol***-ee-***mix***-in/bass-i-***tray***-sin)

Key Information

- Triple antibiotic eye ointment used to treat bacterial eye infections.
- Wash your hands before applying. To prevent contamination, do not touch the tip of the ointment tube or allow it to touch your animal's eye or any other surface.
- Common side effects include mild eye redness or tear production.
- Some cats may have an allergic reaction to one of the antibiotics in this ointment. Contact your veterinarian immediately if your animal has difficulty breathing or facial swelling after receiving this medication.
- If you are administering more than one eye medication, wait 5 minutes between each medication. Apply eye drops before eye ointments.

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	• Eye ointment containing 3 antibiotics
Other common names	*BNP*, triple antibiotic, *Vetropolycin*
Uses	FDA-approved uses in animals: • Treatment of bacterial eye and eyelid infections in dogs and cats 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 corneal ulcers and wounds in dogs, cats, and other species
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 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	Do **not** use: • In animals that are allergic to any of the active ingredients Use with **caution**: • In cats. Some cats may be more likely to have an allergic reaction. 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 any of these antibiotics.
How do I give this medication?	• Wash your hands before administration. • Do not touch the tip of the ointment tube with your hands. Do not allow the tip to touch your animal's eye or any other surface. • Apply to the affected eye(s) as directed by your veterinarian. • If you are administering more than one eye medication to your animal, wait 5 minutes between each medication. Apply eye drops before applying eye ointments. *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: • Mild eye redness or tear production • Temporary squinting after application **Severe** – stop the medication and contact your veterinarian immediately if you notice any of these signs: • Swelling, redness, irritation, or itching of the eye or eyelid • Persistent squinting • Difficulty breathing or noisy breathing. This may be a sign of a severe allergic reaction.
How will I know it's working?	• Your animal should start feeling better within 1 to 2 days. You should see a gradual improvement in your animal's signs throughout the treatment course. *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 applied to the eye. If your animal eats this medication, diarrhea or other side effects can occur. If you witness or suspect an overdose, call your veterinarian or an animal-specific poison control center (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. • Protect from moisture and sunlight. • Keep out of reach of children and animals.
Disposal	Do **not** flush this medication down the toilet or wash 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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