

## Research Note: Luteinizing Hormone in Intact vs Neutered Cats

This study\* tested the accuracy of a commercial point-of-care luteinizing hormone (LH) test in differentiating intact versus neutered cats. Spayed or neutered animals typically have higher LH levels than intact animals, as negative feedback from gonadal sex hormones on the pituitary and hypothalamus has been removed. Serum LH was evaluated in intact female ( $n = 87$ ), spayed female ( $n = 129$ ), intact male ( $n = 19$ ), and neutered male ( $n = 34$ ) cats. Overall sensitivity and specificity were 89.3% and 92.6%, respectively. Overall accuracy was 91.1%, although the LH surge at the onset of estrus may cause false-positive results in intact females. The commercial point-of-care LH test may be a useful adjunct to patient history and physical examination for determining reproductive status in cats.

\*Zoetis supplied the Witness LH tests and, at the time of this study, paid the salary of MR Krecic.

### Source

Krecic MR, DiGangi BA, Griffin B. Accuracy of a point-of-care luteinizing hormone test for help in distinguishing between sexually intact and ovariectomized or castrated domestic cats. *J Feline Med Surg*. 2018;20(10):955-961.

## Research Note: Concurrent Administration & Pharmacokinetics of Extended- Release Levetiracetam

This study evaluated the pharmacokinetics of extended-release levetiracetam administered as a single agent or concurrently with phenobarbital or zonisamide in epileptic dogs. Results indicated that concurrent administration with phenobarbital led to variability in pharmacokinetics of extended-release levetiracetam, an effect that was not noted with zonisamide. The authors noted that higher doses of extended-release levetiracetam may be needed in some dogs to achieve concentrations considered therapeutic in humans and that drug monitoring may help to determine the optimal dose in individual patients.

### Source

Muñana KR, Otamendi AJ, Nettifee JA, Papich MG. Population pharmacokinetics of extended-release levetiracetam in epileptic dogs when administered alone, with phenobarbital or zonisamide. *J Vet Intern Med*. 2018;32(5):1677-1683.

**entyce®**  
(capromorelin oral solution)

30 mg/mL

**BRIEF SUMMARY:** Before using this product, please consult the full product insert for more information.

**For oral use in dogs only**

**Appetite Stimulant**

**Caution:** Federal (USA) law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.

**Description:** ENTYCE® (capromorelin oral solution) is a selective ghrelin receptor agonist that binds to receptors and affects signaling in the hypothalamus to cause appetite stimulation and binds to the growth hormone secretagogue receptor in the pituitary gland to increase growth hormone secretion.

**Indication:** ENTYCE (capromorelin oral solution) is indicated for appetite stimulation in dogs.

**Contraindications:** ENTYCE should not be used in dogs that have a hypersensitivity to capromorelin.

**Warnings:** Not for use in humans. Keep this and all medications out of reach of children and pets. Consult a physician in case of accidental ingestion by humans. **For use in dogs only**

**Precautions:** Use with caution in dogs with hepatic dysfunction. ENTYCE is metabolized by CYP3A4 and CYP3A5 enzymes (See Clinical Pharmacology). Use with caution in dogs with renal insufficiency. ENTYCE is excreted approximately 37% in urine and 62% in feces (See Adverse Reactions and Clinical Pharmacology).

The safe use of ENTYCE has not been evaluated in dogs used for breeding or pregnant or lactating bitches.

**Adverse Reactions:** Field safety was evaluated in 244 dogs. The most common adverse reactions were diarrhea and vomiting. Of the dogs that received ENTYCE ( $n = 171$ ), 12 experienced diarrhea and 11 experienced vomiting. Of the dogs treated with placebo ( $n = 73$ ), 5 experienced diarrhea and 4 experienced vomiting.

To report suspected adverse drug events and/or obtain a copy of the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) or for technical assistance, call Aratana Therapeutics at 1-844-640-5500.

For additional information about adverse drug experience reporting for animal drugs, contact FDA at 1-888-FDA-VETS or online at <http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/SafetyHealth>

NADA 141-457, Approved by FDA

US Patent: 6,673,929

US Patent: 9,700,591

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