

# Misoprostol

Prostaglandin E<sub>1</sub> analog (Systemic drug)



## Prescriber Highlights

- Prostaglandin E<sub>1</sub> analog for treating or preventing gastric ulcers, especially associated with NSAIDs
- May be useful as an abortifacient adjunct
- Pregnant women should handle with caution

## Uses, Indications

- Primary or adjunctive therapy for treating or preventing GI adverse effects (eg, anorexia, vomiting) or gastroduodenal ulceration, especially when caused by NSAIDs

Information about this drug was adapted from Plumb's® Veterinary Drugs. Further details and more therapeutics can be found with a subscription at [plumbsveterinarydrugs.com](http://plumbsveterinarydrugs.com)

- Not as effective in reducing gastric ulceration secondary to high dose corticosteroid therapy
- Effects on uterine contractility and cervical softening/opening make it effective as an adjunctive treatment in pregnancy termination
- Uterine contractions and vaginal bleeding may occur in female dogs

## Drug Interactions

- Magnesium-containing antacids may aggravate misoprostol-induced diarrhea
- May enhance effects of oxytocin
- Concurrent use with phenylbutazone may result in neurosensory effects (eg, dizziness, ataxia)

## Monitoring

- Efficacy
- Adverse effects

## Client Information

- Give with food if upset stomach occurs, or to prevent stomach upset
- Common side effects include diarrhea, abdominal pain, vomiting, and flatulence
- Pregnant women should avoid handling this medication, as miscarriage can occur

## Dosage Forms

- Misoprostol tablets: 100 µg, 200 µg

—Compiled and summarized from Plumb's® Veterinary Drugs by Shannon Palermo, VMD

## Contraindications, Precautions, Warnings

- **Contraindications**  
Not for use in pregnant or nursing animals
- **Precautions**  
Sensitivity to prostaglandins or prostaglandin analogs, and patients with cerebral or coronary vascular disease
- **Warnings**  
Although not reported with misoprostol, some prostaglandins and prostaglandin analogs have precipitated seizures in epileptic human patients, and caused hypotension

## Side Effects

- GI distress is most common, usually manifested as diarrhea, abdominal pain, vomiting, and flatulence
- Often transient and resolves over several days or may be minimized by dosage adjustments or giving doses with food