

# Maropitant

## Neurokinin-1 Receptor Antagonist, Antiemetic (Systemic Drug)



### Prescriber Highlights

- Veterinary-approved antiemetic for dogs 8 weeks of age or older and cats 16 weeks of age or older
- Acts at the emetic center and is effective for antiemesis both peripherally and centrally
- Subcutaneous injection is FDA-approved for prevention and treatment of acute vomiting in dogs and treatment of vomiting in cats
- The oral dose is higher than the subcutaneous dose because of decreased oral bioavailability
- Refrigerating the injectable solution may reduce pain at the injection site. Solution needs to be stored in the refrigerator after first vial puncture.

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)

### Uses, Indications

- The injectable solution is indicated for dogs 8 weeks of age or older for prevention and treatment of acute vomiting
- Oral tablets are indicated for prevention of acute vomiting and motion sickness with vomiting in dogs
- The injectable solution is approved for treatment of vomiting in cats 16 weeks of age or older

### Contraindications, Precautions, Warnings

- **Contraindications**  
If vomiting persists despite treatment, further evaluation for an underlying cause is warranted
- **Precautions**  
Use with caution in patients with hepatic disease because maropitant is hepatically metabolized
- **Warnings**  
Use with caution in puppies less than 11 weeks of age; higher frequency and greater severity of histologic evidence of bone marrow hypoplasia has been observed in puppies treated with maropitant

### Side Effects

- Well tolerated in most patients
- Swelling and pain at the injection site have been reported in dogs following SQ administration

- Pretravel vomiting and hypersalivation are the most common side effects seen after oral administration at the dose motion sickness prevention requires

### Drug Interactions

- Biotransformed in the liver by CYP450 enzymes and highly protein bound and therefore susceptible to various drug interactions (eg, chloramphenicol, phenobarbital, erythromycin, ketoconazole, itraconazole, NSAIDs); however, specific drug interactions have yet to be investigated

### Monitoring

- Clinical efficacy is measured by decreased frequency of vomiting and side effects

### Client Information

- Vomiting may occur after administration, so giving the medication with a small meal may help
- If splitting tablets, wrap remaining portions tightly in foil until they are used

### Dosage Forms

- Maropitant citrate injectable solution: 10 mg/mL
- Maropitant citrate oral tablets: 16 mg, 24 mg, 60 mg, 160 mg

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