Clindamycin

by Dr. Carrie Jurney DVM, DACVIM (Neurology)

SUMMARY:

- 1) This is an antibiotic
- 2) This medication may cause GI upset (vomiting, inappetance or diarrhea)
- 3) This medication tastes very bitter, and some animals strongly object to the taste.
- 4) Please finish the entire course of medication unless instructed to do otherwise by a veterinarian.

EXPLANATION:

This is an antibiotic that treats a variety of bacterial and protozoal infections. It should be given with food.

SIDE EFFECTS:

This medication is very well tolerated overall. The majority of animals will not have any side effects from this medication. The following side effects have been reported:

- 1) GI side effects including inappetence, vomiting and diarrhea. GI problems can be prevented in some animals by starting a pro-biotic supplement with the antibiotics. If your pet has GI upset while on this medication please contact your veterinarian.
- 2) This medication tastes bad and some animals, especially cats, react strongly to the taste by refusing to take the medication or by drooling after administration. If your pet is especially averse we may need to switch medications or try a compounded flavored version of the medication.
- 3) It has rarely been associated with esophageal irritation and strictures in cats.
- 4) This medication should be used with caution in patients with severe kidney or liver disease.
- 5) Rarely drug allergies have been reported.

