

# Treating Your Cat or Dog

## Using Doxycycline



### About this medication

Your cat or dog's bacterial infection is being treated with doxycycline (also called Vibramycin® or Doxy100®).



### Giving this medication to your cat or dog

- Give it to your cat or dog exactly as prescribed. Follow the instructions provided by your pet's veterinarian.
- Give at least 2 hours before or after medications containing calcium, antacids, iron, magnesium, or aluminum (such as sucralfate, Tums®, Pepto-Bismol®, or iron supplements). These types of medications decrease doxycycline absorption.
- Give with food and water to reduce side effects, especially the risk of esophageal irritation or stricture formation (throat irritation or swelling).
- If you miss a dose, give the next dose as scheduled.



### Side effects and drug interactions

- Side effects include upset stomach, lack of appetite, nausea, or throat irritation. Your cat or dog may vomit or have diarrhea.
- Cats should be given a liquid formulation to avoid side effects associated with doxycycline tablets.



### Storing this medication

- Tablets: Store at room temperature in a cool, dry place and away from heat or direct sunlight.
- Liquid: Store in a refrigerator and shake well before giving it to your cat or dog.



### Using antibiotics safely

Antibiotic resistance happens when germs develop the ability to defeat the drugs designed to kill them. This includes bacteria developing antibiotic resistance to prescribed medications. Using antibiotics safely minimizes the risk of bacteria developing resistance.

- Discard any unused or expired medication. You can find safe places to dispose of unneeded medication at [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/opioids/permanent-drug-drop-boxes.htm](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/opioids/permanent-drug-drop-boxes.htm).
- Visit [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/antimicrobial-stewardship/patient-resources.htm](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/antimicrobial-stewardship/patient-resources.htm) for more information on using antibiotics safely.

