

# Treating Your Cat or Dog

## Using Chloramphenicol



### About this medication

Your cat or dog's bacterial infection is being treated with chloramphenicol (also called Chloromycetin® or Viceton®).



### 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 with food to reduce side effects.
- **Chloramphenicol can cause irreversible, sometimes fatal, bone marrow damage in some people.** It is important to wear gloves when giving the medication to your cat or dog. After giving your pet the medication, dispose of gloves directly in the trash and wash your hands. Do not crush tablets. Discuss any concerns about handling this medication with your pet's veterinarian or pharmacist.
- If you miss a dose, give the next dose as scheduled.



### Side effects and drug interactions

- Side effects include upset stomach, lack of appetite, and nausea. Your cat or dog may vomit or have diarrhea. Other reported side effects include bone marrow suppression or neurologic signs (difficulty walking or unsteady gait).
- If you have concerns, contact your pet's veterinarian.



### Storing this medication

- Tablets: Store at room temperature in a cool, dry place away from heat or direct sunlight.
- Liquid: Store as directed on the label and shake well before giving 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.

- Do not save any unused medications.
- 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.

