

Follow-up recommendations



Monitoring recommendation

Today, Dr. _____
veterinarian's name

prescribed: _____
prescription name

for: _____
pet's name

Baseline test performed?

yes

no

Follow-up schedule

Date: _____
follow-up appointment

You should follow up every:

weeks

months

Call us if you have questions
or need more complete information
about your pet's prescription.

_____ telephone

The top four reasons to monitor your pet's medications

- **Your pet deserves the best care.** We monitor your pet's health to ensure greater success in treating a condition. We can test your pet in just a few minutes, and you'll have answers during your visit.
- **Monitoring your pet helps us prescribe the proper medication** for your pet's age, size, breed and physical condition.
- **Pharmaceutical manufacturers recommend monitoring.** Monitoring schedules ensure safe medication administration, guiding us as we evaluate your pet for any side effects, potential complications and/or interactions with other drugs.
- **Monitoring helps us establish a baseline picture** of your pet's vital organs, so we know when changes indicate areas of concern. This helps us evaluate the treatment plan and make adjustments as necessary.

Practice what's possible™

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Prescription medications

Testing helps us choose
the right medication
—monitoring helps ensure
lasting effectiveness.



How you can make sure your pet responds well to medications

In human medicine, medications play an important role in health care, as long as the correct dose is given and side effects are carefully monitored by a physician.

The same is true for animals. We want to make sure your pet's prescribed medication is truly helping—not causing any side effects. That's why we recommend testing.

We'll test your pet:

- **before prescribing a medication** to be sure organ function is normal and the prescription is right for your pet's age, breed, size and physical condition.
- **after we've begun treatment** so we can monitor response and uncover any hidden reactions. Should a problem arise, we can alter the treatment plan immediately.
- **periodically during treatment**, as recommended by pharmaceutical manufacturers, to make sure continued use of the medicine has not triggered any adverse reactions.

Hidden health problems

Early detection. Reduced risk. Peace of mind.

We may screen for some of the following conditions in determining your pet's health status.



Liver

Biochemistry tests can indicate:

- Liver disease
- Cushing's syndrome
- Abnormalities resulting from long-term medications



Heart

Immunoassay tests can indicate heartworm disease.



Thyroid

Biochemistry and T₄ tests can indicate hypothyroidism or hyperthyroidism.

Teeth

Dental exams uncover mouth infections, which can cause problems with vital organs.



Blood

CBC/Hematocrit are used to screen for:

- Infection
- Leukemia
- Anemia (low red blood cells)



Kidney

Biochemistry tests can indicate:

- Kidney disease
- Renal failure
- Abnormalities resulting from long-term medications

Urinalysis and urine protein:creatinine ratio are used to better evaluate:

- Kidney function
- Kidney infection



Pancreas

Biochemistry tests can indicate:

- Pancreatitis
- Diabetes mellitus
- Abnormalities resulting from long-term medications

Some common medications and suggested protocols

For example, if we prescribe:

The recommended monitoring program may be:



Arthritis Medications
(NSAIDs) Rimadyl[®], Metacam[®], EtoGesic[®], Zubrin[™], Deramaxx[®], aspirin,
other _____

Conduct liver- and kidney-function blood tests prior to administration.

Follow up: days weeks thereafter.

Test every: weeks months to ensure safety and to check liver or kidney function.



Heart Medications
Digoxin, enalapril, Enacard[®], furosemide, benazepril, Salix[®],
other _____

Conduct complete blood cell count (CBC), liver- and kidney-function blood tests, and electrolyte levels prior to administration.

Test again after: days weeks to ensure safety.

Blood tests every: weeks months.



Seizure Medications
Luminal[®] (phenobarbital), potassium bromide,
other _____

Conduct blood tests prior to administration.

Check every: days weeks for phenobarbital levels until normal blood levels are achieved.

Test every: weeks months for liver-function check.

Test every: months thereafter.



Thyroid Disease Medications
Soloxine[®] (levothyroxine)

Blood tests taken hours after administration. After diagnosing,

Test thyroid levels: days weeks after beginning treatment.

Then test every: weeks months to ensure proper dosing.



Tapazole[®], methimazole,
other _____

Conduct a CBC before administration.

Test every: days weeks (T₄, CBC, liver- and kidney-function blood tests) until proper levels are achieved.

Test every: weeks months to ensure safe and proper dosing.



Urethral Incontinence Medications
Phenylpropanolamine, estrogen,
other _____

Conduct blood tests prior to long-term use.

Test after: days weeks.

And test every: weeks months to ensure continued safe usage.



Adrenal Disease Medications
Lysodren[®] (mitotane), Florinef[®] (fludrocortisone)

Conduct blood tests prior to administration.

Test after: days weeks.

Test every: weeks months to ensure continued safe usage.



Allergy Medications
Medrol[®] (methylprednisolone), hydroxyzine, diphenhydramine, cyclosporine, prednisone,
other _____

Start liver- and kidney-function blood tests prior to long-term administration.

Test in: days weeks.

Then test every: weeks months to detect any abnormalities, especially in patients with glaucoma, heart disease and thyroid conditions.

Let's help your pet feel better by following the pharmaceutical manufacturers' guidelines.

With your good care, our treatment

recommendations and the prescribed medication,

we are working to restore your pet's health.

For the best outcome, we follow pharmaceutical

manufacturers' recommendations and guidelines

for each of the medications we prescribe.

And, because we know your pet's medical

history better than anyone, you can trust us

to provide safe medications that ensure

your pet's well-being.

