

SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

1. NAME OF THE VETERINARY MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Metacam 15 mg/ml oral suspension for horses

2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Each ml contains:

Active substance:

Meloxicam: 15 mg

Excipients:

Qualitative composition of excipients and other constituents	Quantitative composition if that information is essential for proper administration of the veterinary medicinal product
Sodium benzoate	1.5 mg
Sorbitol, liquid	
Glycerol	
Saccharin sodium	
Xylitol	
Sodium dihydrogen phosphate dihydrate	
Silica, colloidal anhydrous	
Hydroxyethylcellulose	
Citric acid	
Honey aroma	
Water, purified	

Yellowish viscous oral suspension with a green tinge.

3. CLINICAL INFORMATION

3.1 Target species

Horses

3.2 Indications for use for each target species

Alleviation of inflammation and relief of pain in both acute and chronic musculo-skeletal disorders in horses.

3.3 Contraindications

Do not use in horses suffering from gastrointestinal disorders such as irritation or haemorrhage, impaired hepatic, cardiac or renal function and haemorrhagic disorders.

Do not use in cases of hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients.

Do not use in horses less than 6 weeks of age.

3.4 Special warnings

None.

3.5 Special precautions for use

Special precautions for safe use in the target species

Avoid use in any dehydrated, hypovolaemic or hypotensive animals as there is a potential risk of renal toxicity.

Special precautions to be taken by the person administering the veterinary medicinal product to animals:

People with known hypersensitivity to non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) should avoid contact with the veterinary medicinal product.

In case of accidental ingestion, seek medical advice immediately and show the package leaflet or the label to the physician.

This veterinary medicinal product can cause eye irritation. In case of contact with the eyes, immediately rinse thoroughly with water.

Special precautions for the protection of the environment:

Not applicable.

3.6 Adverse events

Horses:

Very rare (<1 animal / 10,000 animals treated, including isolated reports):	Diarrhoea ¹ , abdominal pain, colitis Appetite loss, lethargy Urticaria, anaphylactoid reaction ²
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1 Reversible

2 May be serious (including fatal) and should be treated symptomatically.

If adverse reactions occur, treatment should be discontinued and the advice of a veterinarian should be sought.

Reporting adverse events is important. It allows continuous safety monitoring of a veterinary medicinal product. Reports should be sent, preferably via a veterinarian, to either the marketing authorisation holder or its local representative or the national competent authority via the national reporting system. See the package leaflet for respective contact details.

3.7 Use during pregnancy, lactation or lay

Pregnancy and lactation:

Laboratory studies in cattle have not provided any evidence for teratogenic, foetotoxic, or maternotoxic effects. However, no data have been generated in horses.

Do not use in pregnant or lactating mares.

3.8 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Do not administer concurrently with glucocorticosteroids, other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs or with anticoagulant agents.

3.9 Administration routes and dosage

Oral use.

To be administered either mixed with food or directly into the mouth at a dosage of 0.6 mg/kg body weight, once daily, up to 14 days. In case the product is mixed with food, it should be added to a small quantity of food, prior to feeding.

The suspension should be given using the measuring syringe provided in the package. The syringe fits onto the bottle and has a kg-body weight scale.

To ensure a correct dosage, body weight should be determined as accurately as possible.

Shake well before use.

After administration of the veterinary medicinal product, close the bottle by replacing the cap, wash the measuring syringe with warm water and let it dry.

Avoid introduction of contamination during use.

3.10 Symptoms of overdose (and where applicable, emergency procedures and antidotes)

In case of overdose symptomatic treatment should be initiated.

3.11 Special restrictions for use and special conditions for use, including restrictions on the use of antimicrobial and antiparasitic veterinary medicinal products in order to limit the risk of development of resistance

Not applicable.

3.12 Withdrawal periods

Meat and offal: 3 days.

Not authorised to use in horses producing milk for human consumption.

4. PHARMACOLOGICAL INFORMATION

4.1 ATCvet code:

QM01AC06

4.2 Pharmacodynamics

Meloxicam is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) of the oxicam class which acts by inhibition of prostaglandin synthesis, thereby exerting anti-inflammatory, analgesic, anti-exudative and antipyretic effects. It reduces leukocyte infiltration into the inflamed tissue. To a minor extent it also inhibits collagen-induced thrombocyte aggregation. Meloxicam also has anti-endotoxic properties because it has been shown to inhibit production of thromboxane B2 induced by intravenous *E. coli* endotoxin administration in calves and pigs.

4.3 Pharmacokinetics

Absorption

When the product is used according to the recommended dosage regime the oral bioavailability is approximately 98 %. Maximal plasma concentrations are obtained after approximately 2–3 hours. The accumulation factor of 1.08 suggests that meloxicam does not accumulate when administered daily.

Distribution

Approximately 98 % of meloxicam is bound to plasma proteins. The volume of distribution is 0.12 l/kg.

Metabolism

The metabolism is qualitatively similar in rats, mini-pigs, humans, cattle and pigs although quantitatively there are differences. The major metabolites found in all species were the 5-hydroxy- and 5-carboxy-metabolites and the oxalyl-metabolite. The metabolism in horses was not investigated. All major metabolites have been shown to be pharmacologically inactive.

Elimination

Meloxicam is eliminated with a terminal half-life of 7.7 hours.

5. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

5.1 Major incompatibilities

None known.

5.2 Shelf life

Shelf life of the veterinary medicinal product as packaged for sale: 3 years.
Shelf life after first opening of the immediate packaging: 6 months.

5.3 Special precautions for storage

This veterinary medicinal product does not require any special storage conditions.

5.4 Nature and composition of immediate packaging

Cardboard box containing one polyethylene bottle of 100 ml or 250 ml with a polyethylene tip adapter and a tamper-proof child-resistant closure and a measuring syringe. Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

5.5 Special precautions for the disposal of unused veterinary medicinal product or waste materials derived from the use of such products

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater.
Use take-back schemes for the disposal of any unused veterinary medicinal product or waste materials derived thereof in accordance with local requirements and with any national collection systems applicable to the veterinary medicinal product concerned.

6. NAME OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica GmbH

7. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER

Vm 04491/5018

8. DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION

08 October 2003

9. DATE OF THE LAST REVISION OF THE SUMMARY OF THE PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

February 2024

10. CLASSIFICATION OF VETERINARY MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Veterinary medicinal product subject to prescription

Find more product information by searching for the 'Product Information Database' on www.gov.uk.

Gavin Hall
Approved: 20 March 2025