

SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

1. NAME OF THE VETERINARY MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Acecare 2 mg/ml Solution for Injection for Dogs and Cats

2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Each ml of solution contains:

Active substance:

Acepromazine	2 mg
(as acepromazine maleate	2.71 mg)

Excipients:

Qualitative composition of excipients and other constituents	Quantitative composition if that information is essential for proper administration of the veterinary medicinal product
Phenol	3 mg
Sodium hydroxide	
Maleic acid	
Water for injections	

Pale yellow solution for injection.

3. CLINICAL INFORMATION

3.1 Target species

Dogs and cats.

3.2 Indications for use for each target species

Anaesthetic premedication: following acepromazine administration, the amount of anaesthetic necessary to induce anaesthesia is considerably reduced. This reduction is approximately one-third of a suitable induction agent.

Tranquilisation: acepromazine tranquilisation (ataraxy) involves a modification of temperament which is not associated with hypnosis, narcosis or marked sedation. This is achieved with low doses of acepromazine.

Sedation: at higher dose rates acepromazine is a sedative.

3.3 Contraindications

Do not use in pregnant animals.

Do not use on a long term basis in individual animals.

3.4 Special warnings

None.

3.5 Special precautions for use

Special precautions for safe use in the target species:

Acepromazine is hypotensive. Particular care should therefore be taken in hypovolaemic animals; rehydration should precede acepromazine administration.

Acepromazine may cause hypothermia due to depression of the thermoregulatory centre and peripheral vasodilation.

In some dogs, particularly Boxers and other short-nosed breeds, spontaneous fainting or syncope may occur due to sinoatrial block caused by excessive vagal tone. An attack may be precipitated by an injection of acepromazine, so a low dose should be used.

Where there is a history of this type of syncope, or if it is suspected because of excessive sinus arrhythmia, it may be advantageous to control the dysrhythmia with atropine given just before the acepromazine.

Large breeds: It has been noted that large breeds of dogs are particularly sensitive to acepromazine and the minimum dose possible should be used in these breeds.

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

Care should be taken when handling and administering this product to avoid exposure.

This product contains a potent sedative. Take precautions to avoid accidental injection. In case of accidental self-injection, seek medical advice immediately and

show the package leaflet or the label to the physician but DO NOT DRIVE as sedation may occur. Symptomatic treatment may be required.

Avoid contact with eyes. If accidental eye contact occurs, flush gently with fresh running water for 15 minutes and seek medical advice if any irritation persists.

In the event of accidental skin contact wash the contaminated area with large amounts of soap and water. Medical advice should be sought if irritation persists.

Wash hands and exposed skin thoroughly after use.

Special precautions for the protection of the environment:

Not applicable.

3.6 Adverse events

Dogs and cats:

Undetermined frequency (cannot be estimated from the available data):	Arrhythmia*
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* after rapid intravenous injection.

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

The safety of the veterinary medicinal product has not been established during pregnancy.

3.8 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Acepromazine is additive to the actions of other depressants and will potentiate general anaesthesia (see section 3.2, indications for use). Do not use this product in conjunction with organophosphates and/or procaine hydrochloride, as it may enhance activity and potential toxicity.

3.9 Administration routes and dosage

Intramuscular, subcutaneous or slow intravenous injection.

Premedication: 0.03 – 0.125 mg per kg bodyweight by intramuscular, subcutaneous or slow intravenous injection.

Other uses: By intramuscular or subcutaneous injection 0.0625 - 0.125 mg per kg bodyweight. Approximately equivalent to 0.625 – 1.25 ml of 2 mg/ml injection per 20 kg bodyweight. By intravenous injection - as for intramuscular, except that it is recommended the injection is made slowly.

The maximum dose that should be given is 4 mg acepromazine per animal. Normally single doses of acepromazine are administered (see section 3.3, Contraindications).

Take adequate precautions to maintain sterility. Avoid the introduction of contamination during use. Should any apparent growth or discolouration occur, discard the product.

Do not exceed 40 broachings per vial.

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

Transient dose-dependent hypotension may occur in cases of accidental overdose. Therapy should consist of discontinuing any other hypotensive treatment, supportive care such as intravenous infusion of warm isotonic saline to correct hypotension and close monitoring.

Epinephrine (adrenaline) is contra-indicated in the treatment of acute hypotension produced by overdosage of acepromazine maleate, since further depression of systemic blood pressure can result.

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

3.12 Withdrawal periods

Not applicable.

4. PHARMACOLOGICAL INFORMATION

4.1 ATCvet code: QN05AA04

4.2 Pharmacodynamics

Acepromazine is a phenothiazine. It is a central nervous system depressant with associated activity on the autonomic system. Phenothiazines have a central action due to inhibition of dopamine pathways, resulting in alteration of mood, reduction in fear and removal of learned or conditioned responses.

Acepromazine possesses anti-emetic, hypothermic, hypotensive and anti-spasmodic properties and shows a marked potentiating effect on barbiturate anaesthesia.

4.3 Pharmacokinetics

The length of action of acepromazine appears to be prolonged and to be dose dependent.

5. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

5.1 Major incompatibilities

In the absence of compatibility studies, this veterinary medicinal product must not be mixed with other veterinary medicinal products.

5.2 Shelf life

Shelf life of the veterinary medicinal product as packaged for sale: 30 months.
Shelf life after first opening the immediate packaging: 28 days.

5.3 Special precautions for storage

Do not store above 25 °C.
Keep the vial in the outer carton in order to protect from light.
Following withdrawal of the first dose, use remainder of the product within 28 days.
Discard unused material.

5.4 Nature and composition of immediate packaging

20 ml clear glass (Type II) vial. Closed with a grey bromobutyl coated rubber bung and aluminium crimped seal.
Cardboard box containing 1 vial of 20 ml.

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

Ecuphar NV

7. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER

Vm 32742/4018

8. DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION

28 July 2016

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

November 2025

10. CLASSIFICATION OF VETERINARY MEDICINAL PRODUCTS

Veterinary medicinal product subject to prescription.

Detailed information on this veterinary medicinal product is available in the Union Product Database (<https://medicines.health.europa.eu/veterinary>).

Gavin Hall
Approved: 16 April 2025