

Tips for Monitoring Megestrol Acetate (MA) Doses & Side Effects

Keeping Track

A Dosage Tracking Form is included to help you keep track of dose administration and any side effects per individual cat. You're welcome to use this form, but it is not required. If you are administering megestrol acetate (MA) to multiple cats, we strongly encourage you to keep written records of dosages and any side effects by cat so that when you provide your data to us (by completing a survey), the information will be easily accessible.

Rule of Thumb: One Cat – One Dose

Remember to remove uneaten food promptly. If you suspect another cat has eaten the medication, we encourage you to document the occurrence (e.g., using a separate Dosage Tracking Form) and note any changes to that cat's behavior or physical condition.

Ensuring Successful Administration and Monitoring for Side Effects and Effectiveness

Using the *Dosage Tracking Form* or another method, record any information which may be useful for administering the medication, tracking side effects, or evaluating MA's effectiveness.

Hopefully MA will prevent estrus and pregnancy during administration. However, **be sure to note any observations related to pregnancy or going into heat.**

The following are examples of a few other things to keep in mind, which may be worth noting, after you begin to administer MA:

- If you had difficulty getting the cat to eat all food containing MA and you added food or changed the food – note which food you tried and which you were successful with.
- Is she drinking water normally or less/more than normal?
- Is she acting normally or is she lethargic or more energetic?
- Is she gaining or losing weight?
- Is she acting normally (friendly, responsive, etc.) or does she seem depressed or quiet?
- Is she urinating or defecating more or less than normal?

Signs of heat may include:

- Vocalizing
- Attention-seeking behavior
- Demanding or pushy behavior
- Rolling on the floor
- Raising hind end into the air, especially when back spine is stroked
- Begging to go outside

Remember to contact your veterinarian if you observe any issues which may require medical attention.

Questions or feedback? Email us at info@acc-d.org.

**THANK YOU for helping us learn more about megestrol acetate
as a short-term contraceptive in cats!**

DOSAGE TRACKING FORM

Cat Name/ID/Description	
Dosage of MA prescribed	<input type="checkbox"/> 0.1 to 0.2 mg/kg per cat once a week ("Micro dose") <input type="checkbox"/> 0.625 mg/kg per cat, typically 2.5 mg, once a week ("Low dose") <input type="checkbox"/> 5 mg per cat 3 times in the first week, then 2.5 mg once a week (dose for cat in heat) <input type="checkbox"/> Other:

Date	Amount of dose eaten	Comments (Describe any changes or signs of heat)
<i>EXAMPLE 1/1/20</i>	<i>75%</i>	<i>Mixed into tbsp. of Friskies. Seems to be drinking more water</i>

DOSAGE TRACKING FORM

Date	Amount of dose eaten	Comments (Describe any changes or signs of heat)