Disclaimer: We want your pet to get the most benefit his or her medicine. This handout is a summary of useful information to help you understand your pet's medication and to administer it safely. Other information about this medicine may be important for you to know. Please talk with your veterinarian for more information and other special considerations for your specific pet.

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GIVING YOUR DOG LIQUID MEDICATION:

If there are <u>no</u> dietary restrictions for your dog, a veterinarian may recommend giving the medication <u>with food</u>. Here are some tips:

- 1. Give a small amount of food without the medication to lower your dog's suspicion.
- 2. Mix the appropriate dose of medication with a small amount of canned food .
- 3. Do not mix the medication with the entire meal, since your dog may not finish their whole meal and will not receive the appropriate dose of medication.

If your dog does have dietary restrictions, will not accept the medication in food, or the medication cannot be taken with food, here are some tips:

- 1. Withdraw the appropriate amount of medication into a dropper or oral syringe. Place this in a convenient location.
- 2. In a regular voice, call your dog over to the place in which the medication will be administered. If you do not sound worried or concerned, your dog will feel the same way.
- 3. Place your dog's hind end against something so that your dog cannot back away from you. It may help to place your dog on a surface above the floor.
- 4. Pick up the dropper or oral syringe with your dominant hand.
- 5. Using your other hand, gently grasp your dog's head from above with your thumb on one side of the hinge of the jaw and your fingers on the other.
- 6. Place the tip of the dropper or oral syringe into the pocket formed between the dog's cheek and back teeth.
- 7. Slowly administer the medication. Give the medication in small amounts, pausing between each portion. If given too fast, your dog may not be able to swallow it. If your dog spits out some of the medication, do not readminister another dose unless you feel that your dog has spit out the entire dose.
- 8. Hold your dog's mouth closed with their head in a slightly elevated position, allowing swallowing to be easier. Gently rub or blow on your dog's nose to help stimulate swallowing.
- 9. Using a soft, moist cloth, wipe off any medication that may have gotten on your dog's face.
- 10. Praise your dog and give him or her a treat, if appropriate to make administration of medication easier the next time.
- 11. Rinse the dropper or oral syringe with tap water and store the medication in a cool, dry place (or refrigerator if necessary as stated on the prescription bottle).

Tips:

It may help to practice giving water first and then try giving the medication.





