Tips for Applying Transdermal Medicine

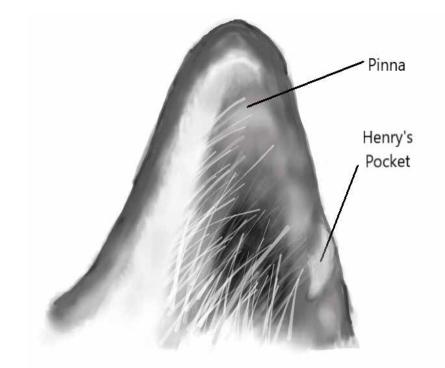
eterinary Medicine

To ensure your and your pet's safety, we recommend the following:

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- Wear gloves. This protects you from absorbing the medication through your skin.
- Apply the prescribed amount of medication to the pinna of one ear. Overapplication or underapplication can result in adverse effects. If you suspect you have been over- or underdosing your pet, please contact your veterinarian.
- **Rub the medication in completely.** This ensures that the medicine will effectively do its job.
- Alternate ears with each dose. This, along with cleaning the ear prior to each dose, is the most effective way to combat irritation. Irritation is the most common adverse side effect of transdermal medicine application.
- Clean the ear prior to applying the next dose. You can use soap and water to clean the area.
- Keep small children and other pets away from the application site for at least two hours after each dose. Additionally, if you have more than one cat, be cognizant that they do not groom each other immediately following the application of medication. Distract your pet with enticing stimuli during administration. While your pet's attention is held by a toy or treat, you can swiftly administer the medication. This creates a safe, enticing experience for your pet. The positive experience will help your pet cooperate during future administrations.

Administering Transdermal Medication to Your Pet's Ear



Step-by-Step: How to Apply Transdermal Medication to Your Pet's Ear

Administering transdermal medication can be daunting. This breakdown explains how to safely and effectively administer medication to your pet's ear.

- 1. Situate your pet in a comfortable position that allows you to reach the ear. You want your pet to be comfortable, but unable to squirm away.
- 2. Clean the pinna of the ear. The pinna is the curved outer ear structure made of cartilage - the part you can see without looking into the ear canal.
- 3. Use the applicator to apply the prescribed dosage on the pinna of the ear.
- 4. Rub the medication into the pinna using gloved hands.
- 5. Keep children and other pets away from the ear for at least two hours while the medication is absorbed.

For a video guide, please visit: go.illinois.edu/AdministeringTransdermalMeds

VETERINARY TEACHING HOSPITAL

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Emergency, specialty, and primary care for horses and farm animals 1102 W. Hazelwood Drive, Urbana (217) 333-2000 Small Animal Clinic

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