

Progestins - Megestrol acetate

Fact Sheet Compiled by: Tai Strike

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Commercial Name:	Ovarid® (Megace® in humans)
Contraceptive Product:	Megestrol acetate
Product Category:	Progestins
Product Availability:	Available through veterinary and human drug distributors
Restrictions and/or permit required by Importing Country:	EGZAC recommends always checking with your local licensing authority
Mechanism of action:	Interference with fertilization by thickening cervical mucus, interrupting gamete transport, disruption of implantation, inhibition of LH surge necessary for ovulation. Typically higher doses are needed to block ovulation than to achieve contraception at the other points.
Product information	FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE INITIAL STIMULATION PHASE IN FEMALES WHEN USING GnRH PRODUCTS WHERE MALE AND FEMALES CANNOT BE SEPARATED FOR 3 WEEKS Registered for the postponement or prevention of oestrus in domestic dogs and cats but not recommended by EGZAC for this use.
Delivery Route and dose:	It is provided in various dose tablets. The domestic dog dose is 1mg/kg body weight daily, but must be extrapolated for other taxa (See taxon sheets). Tablets must be given daily 7 days prior to GnRH implant placement and daily 7 days after the implant has been placed to avoid the stimulation phase and possible pregnancy that could ensue.
Females	
Latency to effectiveness:	N/A
Oestrus cycles during contraceptive treatment:	N/A
Management of latency period:	N/A
Use during pregnancy:	N/A
Use during lactation:	N/A
Use in prepubertals or juveniles:	N/A

Use in seasonal breeders:	N/A
Duration	N/A
Reversibility	N/A
Effects on Behaviour	N/A
Effects on sexual physical characteristics	N/A
Males	
Latency to effectiveness:	N/A
Use in prepubertals or juveniles:	N/A
Use in seasonal breeders:	N/A
Duration and Reversibility	N/A
Effects on Behaviour	N/A
Effects on sexual physical characteristics	N/A
General:	
Side effects	EGZAC recommends always reading the manufacturer's data sheet
Warnings	EGZAC recommends always reading the manufacturer's data sheet
Reporting Requirements: In order to increase our knowledge of the efficacy of contraception methods it is recommended that all individuals on contraception be reported to EGZAC	

References:
1) Wildlife contraception: issues, methods and applications, C.S. Asa, I.J. Porton (2005) The Johns Hopkins University Press
2) www.stlzoo.org/contraception
3) www.noahcompendium.co.uk/Virbac_Limited/Ovarid/
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Disclaimer: EGZAC endeavours to provide correct and current information on contraception from various sources. As these are prescription only medicines it is the responsibility of the veterinarian to determine the dosage and best treatment for an individual animal under their care. EGZAC can therefore not be held liable for any injury, damage or contraception failure in an animal