METACAM® LOWEST EFFECTIVE DOSE CALCULATOR FOR CATS





How to titrate METACAM® to the lowest effective dose

This calculator assumes that the patient has been on a maintenance dose of METACAM[®] oral suspension for at least two weeks, and has been assessed by a veterinarian as pain-free and a suitable candidate for dose titration.



Input the patient's name, weight and dates at which the dose is to be reduced using the dropdown calendar. The dose should be reduced in 10% increments no more frequently than weekly.



This calculator outputs the METACAM[®] dose to be given (in drops) at each dose reduction. Due to calculator rounding to the nearest drop, there may be no dose reduction at some time points. Continue on the current dose until the next dose reduction.



Add the output to the patient's clinical notes. Write the daily doses to be given until the next recheck consultation in the patient's Home Monitoring Diary.

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Adjust to the lowest effective dose, based on regular pain assessment. The dose should only be reduced if the patient has been assessed as pain-free.



Advise the patient's owner which pain assessments prior to dose reduction are to be carried out by the owner and which by a veterinarian. As the signs of osteoarthritis in cats can be subtle,¹ it is advisable that (at a minimum) the pain assessment prior to dose reduction to 60% maintenance is carried out by a veterinarian.

Determining the lowest effective dose

Maintain the patient long-term at the lowest dose that controls pain and inflammation. If clinical signs reappear, return to the previous dose in the titration schedule. It is recommended that the long-term dose is not lower than 50% of the maintenance dose.



METACAM[®] lowest effective dose is recommended by experts and proven in cats.¹⁻⁴

References: 1. Epstein ME, Rodanm I, Griffenhagen G, et al. 2015 AAHA/AAFP pain management guidelines for dogs and cats. J Feline Med Surg. 2015;17:251–272. 2. Bennett D, Zainal Ariffin SM, Johnston P. Osteoarthritis in the cat: 2. How should it be managed and treated? J Feline Med Surg. 2012;14:76–84. 3. Sparkes AH, Heiene R, Lascelles BD, et al. ISFM and AAFP consensus guidelines: long-term use of NSAIDs in cats. J Feline Med Surg. 2010;12:521–538. 4. Gunew MN, Menrath VH, Marshall RD. Long-term safety, efficacy and palatability of oral meloxicam at 0.01-0.03 mg/kg for treatment of osteoarthritic pain in cats. J Feline Med Surg. 2008;10:235–241.



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For use with METACAM[®] 0.5 mg/ml oral suspension and drop dispenser.

Patient name:

Patient weight (kg):



Starting date	Dosing schedule	Dose (drops)
	90% maintenance	
	80% maintenance	
	70% maintenance	
	60% maintenance	
	50% maintenance	

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Dose should only be reduced on each scheduled starting date if the patient has been assessed as pain-free. Guidance for home pain assessment is given in the patient's Home Monitoring Diary.

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