[Version 9,03/2022] corr. 11/2022

ANNEX I

SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

1. NAME OF THE VETERINARY MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Metrocare Flavour 500 mg tablets for dogs and cats (UK(NI), IE)
Metrocare Vet 500 mg tablets for dogs and cats (DK, FI, SE, NO)
Metrocare 500 mg tablets for dogs and cats (AT, BE, CZ, DE, ES, FR, HU, LU, NL, PL, PT, RO, SK, EE)

2. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE COMPOSITION

Each tablet contains:

Active substance:
Metronidazole 500 mg

Excipients:

Qualitative composition of excipients and other constituents
Cellulose, microcrystalline
Sodium starch glycolate (type a)
Yeast extract
Hydroxypropylcellulose
Magnesium stearate

White to off-white, round and convex tablet with a cross-shaped break line on one side.
Tablets can be divided into 2 or 4 equal parts.

3. CLINICAL INFORMATION

3.1 Target species

Dogs and cats

3.2 Indications for use for each target species

Treatment of gastrointestinal tract infections caused by *Giardia* spp. and *Clostridia* spp. (i.e. *C. perfringens* or *C. difficile*).
Treatment of infections of the urogenital tract, oral cavity, throat and skin caused by obligate anaerobic bacteria (e.g. *Clostridia* spp.) susceptible to metronidazole.

3.3 Contraindications

Do not use in cases of hepatic disorders.
Do not use in cases of hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients.

3.4 Special warnings

None.

3.5 Special precautions for use

Special precautions for safe use in target species

Due to the likely variability (time, geographical) in the occurrence of metronidazole resistant bacteria, bacteriological sampling and susceptibility testing are recommended.
Whenever possible, the veterinary medicinal product should only be used based on susceptibility testing.
Official, national and regional antimicrobial policies should be taken into account when the veterinary medicinal product is used.
In very rare cases, neurological signs may occur especially after prolonged treatment with metronidazole.
Special precautions to be taken by the person administering the veterinary medicinal product to animals

Metronidazole has confirmed mutagenic and genotoxic properties in laboratory animals as well as in humans. Metronidazole is a confirmed carcinogen in laboratory animals and has possible carcinogenic effects in humans. However, there is inadequate evidence in humans for the carcinogenicity of metronidazole.
Metronidazole may be harmful for the unborn child.
Personal protective equipment consisting in impervious gloves should be worn when handling the veterinary medicinal product.
To avoid accidental ingestion, particularly by a child, unused part-tablets should be returned to the open blister space, inserted back into the outer packaging and kept in a safe place out of the sight and reach of children. In case of accidental ingestion, seek medical advice immediately and show the package leaflet or the label to the physician. Wash hands thoroughly after handling the tablets.
Metronidazole may cause hypersensitivity reactions. People with known hypersensitivity to metronidazole should avoid contact with the veterinary medicinal product.

Special precautions for the protection of the environment:
Not applicable.

3.6 Adverse events

Dogs and cats:

Very rare (<1 animal / 10,000 animals treated, including isolated reports):	Vomiting Hepatotoxicity Neutropenia Neurological signs

Reporting adverse events is important. It allows continuous safety monitoring of a veterinary medicinal product. Reports should be sent, preferably via a veterinarian, to either the marketing authorisation holder or its local representative or via the national competent authority via the national reporting system. See the package leaflet for respective contact details.

3.7 Use during pregnancy, lactation or lay

Pregnancy:
Studies in laboratory animals have shown inconsistent results with regard to teratogenic/embryotoxic effects of metronidazole. The use is not recommended during pregnancy.

Lactation:
Metronidazole is excreted in milk. The use is not recommended during lactation.

3.8 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction

Metronidazole may have an inhibitory effect on the degradation of other drugs in the liver, such as phenytoin, cyclosporine and warfarin.
Cimetidine may decrease the hepatic metabolism of metronidazole resulting in increased serum concentration of metronidazole.
Phenobarbital may increase hepatic metabolism of metronidazole resulting in decreased serum concentration of metronidazole.

3.9 Administration route and dosage

For oral use.
The recommended dose is 50 mg metronidazole per kg bodyweight per day, for 5-7 days. The daily dose may be divided equally for twice daily administration (i.e. 25 mg/kg bodyweight twice daily).

To ensure a correct dosage, body weight should be determined as accurately as possible.

Bodyweight	**Metrocare 250 mg Tablets (daily dose)**	**or**	**Metrocare 500 mg Tablets (daily dose)**
1.25 kg	¼		
2.5 kg	½		¼
3.75 kg	¾		
5 kg	1		½
7.5 kg	1 ½		¾
10 kg	2		1
15 kg	3		1 ½
20 kg	4		2
25 kg			2 ½
30 kg			3
35 kg			3 ½
40 kg			4

Tablets can be divided into 2 or 4 equal parts to ensure accurate dosing. Place the tablet on a flat surface, with its scored side facing up and the convex (rounded) side facing the surface.

Halves: press down with your thumbs or fingers on both sides of the tablet.
Quarters: press down with your thumb or a finger in the middle of the tablet.
The remaining portion(s) should be given at the next administration(s).

3.10 Symptoms of overdose (and where applicable, emergency procedures, antidotes)

Adverse events are more likely to occur at doses and treatment durations in excess of the recommended treatment regimen. If neurological signs occur, treatment should be discontinued and the patient should be treated symptomatically.

3.11 Special restrictions for use and special conditions for use, including restrictions on the use of antimicrobial and antiparasitic veterinary medicinal products in order to limit the risk of development of resistance

Not applicable.

3.12 Withdrawal periods

Not applicable.

4. PHARMACOLOGICAL INFORMATION

4.1 ATCvet code
QP51AA01

4.2 Pharmacodynamics

After metronidazole has penetrated the bacteria the molecule is reduced by the sensitive bacteria (anaerobe). The metabolites that are created have a toxic effect on the bacteria through binding to the bacterial DNA. In general metronidazole is bactericidal for sensitive bacteria in concentrations equal to or a little higher than the minimum inhibiting concentration (MIC).
Clinically metronidazole does not have any relevant effect on facultative anaerobes, obligate aerobes and microaerophilic bacteria.

4.3 Pharmacokinetics

Metronidazole is immediately and well absorbed after oral administration. The peak plasma concentration, C_{max} was reached in dogs at between 0.75 and 2 hours after dosing and in cats at between 0.33 and 2 hours after dosing. The average terminal half life was 6.35 hours in dogs and 6.21 hours in cats. Metronidazole penetrates well into the tissues and bodily fluids, such as saliva, milk, vaginal secretions and semen. Metronidazole is primarily metabolised in the liver. Within 24 hours after oral administration, 35-65% of the administered dose (metronidazole and the metabolites thereof) is excreted in the urine.

5. PHARMACEUTICAL PARTICULARS

5.1 Major Incompatibilities

Not applicable

5.2 Shelf life

Shelf life of the veterinary medicinal product as packaged for sale: 30 months

5.3 Special precautions for storage

Return any divided tablet to the blister and store protected from light.

5.4 Nature and composition of immediate packaging

PVC/Aluminium/Oriented polyamide /Aluminium blister packs. Cardboard box of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 25 or 50 blisters of 10 tablets giving pack sizes of 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 250 or 500 tablets

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

5.5 Special precautions for the disposal of unused veterinary medicinal product or waste materials derived from the use of such products

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste.

Use take-back schemes for the disposal of any unused veterinary medicinal product or waste materials derived thereof in accordance with local requirements and with any national collection system applicable to the veterinary medicinal product concerned.

6. NAME OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Ecuphar NV

7. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBER(S)

8. DATE OF FIRST AUTHORISATION

<Date of first authorisation:>

9. DATE OF THE LAST REVISION OF THE SUMMARY OF THE PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

10. CLASSIFICATION OF VETERINARY MEDICINAL PRODUCTS

Veterinary medicinal product subject to prescription.

Detailed information on this veterinary medicinal product is available in the Union Product Database (https://medicines.health.europa.eu/veterinary).

ANNEX III

LABELLING AND PACKAGE LEAFLET

A. LABELLING

PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON THE OUTER PACKAGE
{NATURE/TYPE}

1. NAME OF THE VETERINARY MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Metrocare 500 mg tablets for dogs and cats

2. STATEMENT OF ACTIVE SUBSTANCES

Each tablet contains 500 mg metronidazole

3. PACKAGE SIZE

10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 100, 250, 500 tablets

4. TARGET SPECIES

Dogs and cats

5. INDICATION(S)

6. ROUTES OF ADMINISTRATION

Oral use

7. WITHDRAWAL PERIOD

Not applicable

8. EXPIRY DATE

Exp. {mm/yyyy}

9. SPECIAL STORAGE PRECAUTIONS

Return any divided tablet to the blister and store protected from light.

10. THE WORDS "READ THE PACKAGE LEAFLET BEFORE USE"

Read the package leaflet before use.

11. THE WORDS "FOR ANIMAL TREATMENT ONLY"

For animal treatment only.

12. THE WORDS "KEEP OUT OF THE SIGHT AND REACH OF CHILDREN"

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.

13. NAME OF THE MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Ecuphar
An Animalcare Company

14. MARKETING AUTHORISATION NUMBERS

15. BATCH NUMBER

Lot {number}

MINIMUM PARTICULARS TO APPEAR ON SMALL IMMEDIATE PACKAGING UNITS

{BLISTER}

1. NAME OF THE VETERINARY MEDICINAL PRODUCT

Metrocare

2. QUANTITATIVE PARTICULARS OF THE ACTIVE SUBSTANCES

500 mg metronidazole/tablet.

3. BATCH NUMBER

Lot {number}

4. EXPIRY DATE

Exp. {mm/yyyy}

B. PACKAGE LEAFLET

PACKAGE LEAFLET

1. Name of the veterinary medicinal product

Metrocare 500 mg tablets for dogs and cats

2. Composition

Each tablet contains:

Active substance:
Metronidazole 500 mg

White to off-white, round and convex tablet with a cross-shaped break line on one side.
Tablets can be divided into 2 or 4 equal parts.

3. Target species

Dogs and cats

4. Indications for use

Treatment of gastrointestinal tract infections caused by *Giardia* spp. and *Clostridia* spp. (i.e. *C. perfringens* or *C. difficile*).
Treatment of infections of the urogenital tract, oral cavity, throat and skin caused by obligate anaerobic bacteria (e.g. *Clostridia* spp.) susceptible to metronidazole.

5. Contraindications

Do not use in cases of hepatic disorders.
Do not use in cases of hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients.

6. Special warnings

Special precautions for safe use in the target species:

Due to the likely variability (time, geographical) in the occurrence of metronidazole resistant bacteria, bacteriological sampling and susceptibility testing are recommended.
Whenever possible, the veterinary medicinal product should only be used based on susceptibility testing.
Official, national and regional antimicrobial policies should be taken into account when the veterinary medicinal product is used.
In very rare cases, neurological signs may occur especially after prolonged treatment with metronidazole.

Special precautions to be taken by the person administering the veterinary medicinal product to animals:

Metronidazole has confirmed mutagenic and genotoxic properties in laboratory animals as well as in humans. Metronidazole is a confirmed carcinogen in laboratory animals and has possible carcinogenic effects in humans. However, there is inadequate evidence in humans for the carcinogenicity of metronidazole.
Metronidazole may be harmful for the unborn child.

Personal protective equipment consisting of impervious gloves should be worn when handling the veterinary medicinal product.To avoid accidental ingestion, particularly by a child, unused part-tablets should be returned to the open blister space, inserted back into the outer packaging and kept in a safe place out of the sight and reach of children. In case of accidental ingestion, seek medical advice immediately and show the package leaflet or the label to the physician. Wash hands thoroughly after handling the tablets.
Metronidazole may cause hypersensitivity reactions. People with known hypersensitivity to metronidazole should avoid contact with the veterinary medicinal product.

Pregnancy and lactation:

Studies in laboratory animals have shown inconsistent results with regards to the effects of metronidazole on embryos and during pregnancy. The use is not recommended during pregnancy.
Metronidazole is excreted in milk. The use is not recommended during lactation.

Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction:

Metronidazole may have an inhibitory effect on the degradation of other drugs in the liver, such as phenytoin, cyclosporine and warfarin.
Cimetidine may decrease the hepatic metabolism of metronidazole resulting in increased serum concentration of metronidazole.
Phenobarbital may increase hepatic metabolism of metronidazole resulting in decreased serum concentration of metronidazole.

Overdose:

Adverse events are more likely to occur at doses and treatment durations in excess of the recommended treatment regimen. If neurological signs occur, treatment should be discontinued and the patient should be treated symptomatically.

Major Incompatibilities:

Not applicable

7. Adverse events

Dogs and cats:

Very rare (<1 animal / 10,000 animals treated, including isolated reports):
Vomiting, hepatotoxicity, neutropenia, neurological signs

Reporting adverse events is important. It allows continuous safety monitoring of a product. If you notice any side effects, even those not already listed in this package leaflet, or you think that the medicine has not worked, please contact, in the first instance, your veterinarian. You can also report any adverse events to the marketing authorisation holder or the local representative of the marketing authorisation holder using the contact details at the end of this leaflet, or via your national reporting system: {national system details}

8. Dosage for each species, routes and method of administration

For oral use.
The recommended dose is 50 mg metronidazole per kg bodyweight per day, for 5-7 days. The daily dose may be divided equally for twice daily administration (i.e. 25 mg/kg bodyweight twice daily).

To ensure a correct dosage, body weight should be determined as accurately as possible.

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Tablets can be divided into 2 or 4 equal parts to ensure accurate dosing. Place the tablet on a flat surface, with its scored side facing up and the convex (rounded) side facing the surface.

Halves: press down with your thumbs or fingers on both sides of the tablet.
Quarters: press down with your thumb or a finger in the middle of the tablet.
The remaining portion(s) should be given at the next administration(s).

9. Advice on correct administration

10. Withdrawal periods

Not applicable

11. Special storage precautions

Keep out of the sight and reach of children.
Return any divided tablet to the blister and store protected from light.
Do not use this veterinary medicinal product after the expiry date which is stated on blister and carton.
The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

12. Special precautions for disposal

Medicines should not be disposed of via wastewater or household waste.

Use take-back schemes for the disposal of any unused veterinary medicinal product or waste materials derived thereof in accordance with local requirements and with any applicable national collection systems. These measures should help to protect the environment.

Ask your veterinary surgeon or pharmacist how to dispose of medicines no longer required.

13. Classification of veterinary medicinal products

Veterinary medicinal product subject to prescription.

14. Marketing authorisation numbers and pack sizes

Cardboard box of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 25 or 50 blisters of 10 tablets.
Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

15. Date on which the package leaflet was last revised

{mm/yyyy}

Detailed information on this veterinary medicinal product is available in the Union Product Database (https://medicines.health.europa.eu/veterinary).

16. Contact details

Marketing authorisation holder
Ecuphar NV
Legeweg 157-i
B-8020
Oostkamp
Belgium

Manufacturer responsible for batch release:
Lelypharma B.V.
Zuiveringsweg 42
8243 PZ
Lelystad
The Netherlands