

## Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs)

- **Keep this leaflet safe as you may need to refer to it again**
- **Please ask at the surgery if you have any further questions**
- **This medication has been prescribed for your pet ONLY. Do not take it yourself or give it to another person or any other animal; it may harm them even if their symptoms appear to be the same.**

There are lots of different varieties of NSAIDs; examples used at the surgery include Metacam, Rimadyl, Onsior, Previcox and Cimalgex. Which version your animal has been prescribed will depend on their condition and history but the advice below applies to all of them.

### **What are NSAIDs?**

NSAIDs are a class of drugs that work to reduce pain, inflammation and fevers. They are widely and effectively used for a variety of conditions in both dogs and cats.

### **How should I store the medication?**

This medication does not require special storage conditions. For safety, all medicines should be kept out of reach and sight of children. Also, as the medication is palatable, it should be kept out of reach of animals.

### **What should I do if my pet accidentally takes too many doses?**

Contact the surgery immediately as an overdose of NSAIDs can potentially be fatal.

### **What should I do if I miss a dose?**

If a dose is missed just give the next dose as usual. Do not give a double dose.

### **What are the possible side effects of NSAIDs?**

Possible side effects include loss of appetite, vomiting and diarrhoea. In rare cases this can result in a stomach ulcer. If any of these side effects occur then stop the medication immediately and contact the surgery. If the label on the medication says "give with food" then it is very important that this is followed to reduce the risk of these side effects.

Care should be taken in animals with pre-existing kidney or liver problems but your vet will discuss these risks with you.

