Baclofen

Lioresal® is another name for this medication.

How Is This Medication Useful?
- Baclofen is a muscle relaxant that may be useful in dogs who have difficulty urinating.

Are There Conditions or Times When Its Use Might Cause More Harm Than Good?
- Baclofen should not be used in cats.
- This drug should generally not be used in dogs who have or have ever had a seizure.
- Baclofen causes drowsiness and is not recommended for use in working animals that need to remain alert.
- This medication has caused birth defects and should only be used in pregnancy after careful consultation with your veterinarian.
- If your animal has any of the above conditions, talk to your veterinarian about the potential risks of using the medication versus the benefits that it might have.

What Side Effects Can Be Seen With Its Use?
- Baclofen usually causes drowsiness in most dogs.
- Baclofen may also cause weakness, itching and stomach upset in your dog.
- When discontinuing the use of baclofen, the drug should be tapered off gradually as hallucinations and seizures may occur if the drug is stopped too suddenly.

How Should It Be Given?
- The successful outcome of your animal’s treatment with this medication depends upon your commitment and ability to administer it exactly as the veterinarian has prescribed. Please do not skip doses or stop giving the medication. If you have difficulty giving doses consult your veterinarian or pharmacist who can offer administration techniques or change the dosage form to a type of medication that may be more acceptable to you and your animal.
- If you miss a dose of this medication you should give it as soon as you remember it, but if it is within a few hours of the regularly scheduled dose, wait and give it at the regular time. Do not double a dose as this can be toxic to your pet.
- Some other drugs can interact with this medication so tell your veterinarian about any drugs or foods that you currently give your animal. Do not give new foods or medications without first asking your veterinarian.
- Do not stop giving this drug suddenly or your dog may experience hallucinations and seizures.
- **Dogs**: Baclofen is usually given orally as a tablet or a specially formulated liquid three times daily.
- **Cats**: Baclofen should not be given to cats.
- **Horses**: Baclofen has been given orally to horses and is considered a Class 4 drug by the Association of Racing Commissioners International.

What Other Information Is Important About This Medication?
- Baclofen should be stored in a tight, light resistant, childproof container away from all children and other household pets.