Buspirone

Buspar® is another name for this medication.

How Is This Medication Useful?
- Buspirone reduces anxiety and is used to treat behavior problems in your pet.

Are There Conditions or Times When Its Use Might Cause More Harm Than Good?
- Buspirone is removed from the body by the kidneys and liver and should be used carefully in animals with kidney or liver disease.
- After giving this medication for a while, you should not stop it suddenly or the fears and bad behaviors may return.
- Some flea and tick products will cause buspirone to make your pet become very sick. You should tell your veterinarian about all flea products and collars that you use prior to giving this medication.
- Buspirone has not caused problems in pregnant laboratory animals, but should only be used with caution if your pet is pregnant.
- 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?
- Buspirone does not generally cause any side effects, but can cause a fast heartbeat, dizziness, an upset stomach, headaches and a lack of appetite.
- Too much buspirone can cause your pet to be very drowsy and have constricted pupils. If you notice these symptoms, you should contact your veterinarian immediately.

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.
- 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. Report all flea and tick products used to your veterinarian before giving this drug.
- 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. These animals usually receive this drug orally twice or three times daily with or without food.

What Other Information Is Important About This Medication?
- This medication may take 2-4 weeks before it works and as many as one half of patients treated will start to show behavior problems again while on this therapy.
- Buspirone may cause your cat to become more or less affectionate to you and other household pets during therapy.
- Buspirone tablets should be protected from light and moisture.