Captopril
Capoten® is another name for this medication.

How Is This Medication Useful?
Captopril is used to lower blood pressure and to improve heart function.

Are There Conditions or Times When Its Use Might Cause More Harm Than Good?
- Captopril is eliminated by the kidneys and may become toxic in animals with poor kidney function.
- If your animal has low blood sodium then your veterinarian may decide not to use captopril in your pet.
- 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?
- If the dose is too high, captopril can cause your pet's blood pressure to become too low. If your pet seems like it is weak or it is fainting, you should call your veterinarian immediately.
- Some animals may vomit and develop diarrhea while taking captopril.
- Because captopril contains sulfur, it may cause rashes or skin reactions, and it may also cause the bone marrow to stop producing blood cells.
- At high doses, captopril can cause the kidneys to fail.

How Should It Be Given?
- Captopril should be given on an empty stomach unless otherwise instructed by your veterinarian.
- 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.
- Dogs and Cats: Captopril is usually given orally to dogs and cats three times daily.
- Horses: Captopril is not usually given to horses and is considered a Class 3 drug by the Association of Racing Commissioners International.

What Other Information Is Important About This Medication?
- Captopril should be stored in a tight, light resistant, childproof container away from all children and other household pets.
- It is normal for captopril to have a rotten egg, sulfurous smell.
- Owners who are allergic to sulfa drugs should handle this drug with caution.