Cefadroxil

Cefa-Tabs®, Cefa-Drops® and Duricef® are other names for this medication.

How Is This Medication Useful?
- Cefadroxil is an antibiotic that is given orally to treat infections in animals.

Are There Conditions or Times When Its Use Might Cause More Harm Than Good?
- Animals that are allergic to penicillin or penicillin-like drugs should not receive cefadroxil.
- Cefadroxil must be eliminated from the body by the kidneys, and the dose must be lowered in animals with kidney failure.
- Cefadroxil and other cephalosporins may cause seizures in epileptic animals and should be used with caution in these animals.
- Cefadroxil may cross into the womb and should probably not be used in pregnant animals.
- Cefadroxil may cause false positive results in certain kinds of dip sticks used to test the urine of diabetic animals.
- You should always give all of the medication as directed by your veterinarian. If the entire course of treatment is not finished, the germ causing the infection may become stronger than the antibiotics and cause a worsening infection.
- 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?
- Cefadroxil does not usually cause side effects, but some animals may experience stomach upset, vomiting and diarrhea. Giving cefadroxil with food may alleviate this effect.
- At extremely high doses, cefadroxil can cause damage to the kidneys as well as cause the bone marrow to stop producing blood cells.
- Cefadroxil should be given on an empty stomach unless your pet experiences stomach upset. Once stomach upset occurs, your veterinarian may recommend that you give cefadroxil with food.

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. 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 & Cats**: Dogs and cats usually receive this medication as a tablet or a liquid once or twice daily.
- **Horses**: Horses should not receive this medication orally as it may cause life-threatening diarrhea or colic.

What Other Information Is Important About This Medication?
- Cefadroxil should be stored in a tight, light resistant, childproof container away from all children and other household pets. Liquids should be stored in the refrigerator for no more than 14 days and shaken well before use.
- It is normal for cefadroxil to have a sulfurous smell, almost like that of cat urine.
- Pet owners who are allergic to penicillin or penicillin-like drugs should handle this drug with extreme caution.