Ketoprofen

Ketopen® and Orudis® are other names for this medication.

How Is This Medication Useful?
- Ketoprofen is useful in reducing pain caused by inflammation. It is considered to be safer to use in small animals than aspirin, ibuprofen or acetaminophen.

Are There Conditions or Times When Its Use Might Cause More Harm Than Good?
- Because the liver is required to remove ketoprofen from the body, this drug should be used carefully in animal's with liver disease. Your veterinarian may want to perform periodic liver function tests to show that your animal's liver is working properly.
- Dogs with bleeding problems (e.g., Von Willebrand's Disease) should not take ketoprofen as it may stimulate uncontrollable bleeding.
- Animals with kidney disease should not take ketoprofen as it may worsen the kidney disease.
- Animals with stomach ulcers or bowel disorders should not take ketoprofen.
- Cats cannot efficiently eliminate ketoprofen and should not receive this drug longer than for 5 days as it will likely cause severe damage to the kidneys.
- Other anti-inflammatory drugs similar to ketoprofen have caused birth defects in animals. Ketoprofen should probably not be used in pregnant animals.
- 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?
- Ketoprofen is generally free of side effects but may cause vomiting or diarrhea in some animals. You should report this to your veterinarian immediately if these occur.
- Ketoprofen can cause bleeding in the gastrointestinal tract. Notify your veterinarian immediately if your pet vomits blood or has feces that appear black or tarry.
- Ketoprofen is toxic to the liver in a small minority of dogs. You should notify your veterinarian immediately if your pet seems lethargic (lacking energy), vomits, or stops eating.
- Ketoprofen can be especially toxic to the kidneys of cats. If your cat vomits, stops eating, or seems lethargic (lacking energy) you should notify your veterinarian immediately.

How Should It Be Given?
- Ketoprofen should be given with food. 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: Dogs usually receive ketoprofen orally up to twice daily for pain and inflammation. Cats do not usually receive ketoprofen for more than 5 days as they have a difficult time eliminating it from their bodies.
- Horses: Horses usually receive ketoprofen as a single dose.
- Rabbits/Ferrets: Rabbits and ferrets may receive ketoprofen once or twice daily for pain. These pets require small doses that will have to be compounded by your pharmacist.

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