Orbifloxacin

Orbax® is another name for this medication.

How Is This Medication Useful?

- Orbifloxacin is a quinolone antibiotic used to treat infections in animals.

Are There Conditions or Times When Its Use Might Cause More Harm Than Good?

- Animals allergic to orbifloxacin or drugs like it should not receive orbifloxacin.
- Orbifloxacin and drugs like it should not be used in animals that are still growing because it may affect joints and bone growth. Some infections are serious enough, however, that you and your veterinarian may wish to risk this effect.
- Orbifloxacin and drugs like it can cause blindness in cats. Your veterinarian will prescribe orbifloxacin at a safe dose, but if your cat shows any signs of dilated pupils or any change in behavior, you should contact your veterinarian immediately. Orbifloxacin is not as likely to cause this effect as a drug called enrofloxacin (Baytril®).
- Orbifloxacin and other quinolones may rarely cause a seizure in animals that are prone to seizures. If your pet has ever had a seizure, you should tell your veterinarian before administering orbifloxacin.
- Orbifloxacin is forbidden to be used in any animal that will be used as food for humans.
- 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?

- Except for the effects mentioned above, orbifloxacin is generally free of any side effects. Some animals will suffer from loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, and tiredness.
- Rarely, some animals will develop liver problems after taking orbifloxacin.
- Dehydrated animals who are prone to seizures, may have seizures while taking orbifloxacin.

How Should It Be Given?

- Orbifloxacin should be given orally on an empty stomach. Iron, antacids and dairy products should not be given within 2 hours after giving orbifloxacin.
- 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 stop giving the antibiotics just because your pet looks better. 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.
- Giving antibiotics irregularly can actually make the infection worse as the bacteria can build up a tolerance to the drug (resistance).
- 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 and cats usually receive orbifloxacin orally once to twice daily for several days.
- **Horses:** Horses generally do not receive orbifloxacin but may receive it orally once daily mixed with feed.

What Other Information Is Important About This Medication?

- Orbifloxacin should be stored in a tight, light resistant, childproof container away from all children and other household pets.