Timolol Ophthalmic

Timoptic® is another name for this medication.

How Is This Medication Useful?
- Timolol is used in the eye to reduce the pressure caused by glaucoma. It is most often used in the “good” eye to prevent glaucoma formation after glaucoma has been diagnosed in the other eye.

Are There Conditions or Times When Its Use Might Cause More Harm Than Good?
- Timolol is available in 0.5% and 0.25% solutions. The 0.25% solutions do not work in animals. You should check to make sure that you have received the 0.5% solution.
- Timolol and drugs like it (beta blockers) should be used with caution in cats with asthma as it may trigger an asthma attack.
- Timolol should also be used with caution in animals that have congestive heart failure.
- 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?
- Timolol may cause the pupil (black part) of the eye to become smaller.

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.

- 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.
- You should always wash your hands after applying this medication to your pet’s eyes as it can get into your eyes and cause dilation of the pupil.
- Dogs and Cats: Timolol is usually administered three times daily in dogs and cats.
- Horses: Horses do not usually receive timolol.

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