Aminocaproic Acid

Anicar® is another name for this medication.

How Is This Medication Useful?
- Aminocaproic acid is used to help treat nerve degeneration in dogs. It helps stop the inflammation process that damages nerves. It may also be used if your pet has a blood clot in the eye.

Are There Conditions or Times When Its Use Might Cause More Harm Than Good?
- Even though this drug is sometimes used to treat blood clots in the eye, it can also cause blood clots in parts of the body where they are dangerous.
- If your pet has liver, heart or kidney disease, this drug should be used with extreme caution.
- Some research has shown that this drug will cause birth defects. It should probably not be used in pregnancy. It also can get into the mother's milk and should not be given to mothers who are still nursing babies.
- 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?
- The most common side effect seen in dogs is stomach upset.
- This drug may also cause the formation of blood clots in your pet's blood vessels.
- This drug may cause the level of potassium in the blood to become too high in animals with kidney disease.
- If the dose is too high, aminocaproic acid may cause your pet to have seizures.

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.

- 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: This medication is usually mixed into an oral liquid for dogs and is flavored with a multivitamin to improve the taste. Most dogs will start to get better within 8 weeks of staring this medicine. You should watch your dog for any signs of stomach upset, seizures or any abnormal bleeding. If you see any of these symptoms, you should tell your veterinarian immediately.

What Other Information Is Important About This Medication?
- This drug is very expensive, but should significantly help your dog's nervous system degeneration. Do not try to skip doses or lower the dose to save money as this will only cause your dog's condition to worsen and the medication will have to be given even longer.
- This drug should be stored at room temperature and protected from extreme heat or freezing.