

Grove Veterinary Centre Client Information Sheet on long term drug dispensing and patient monitoring

Phenobarbitone and other anti-seizure medication

Introduction

Your pet has been prescribed one or more drugs to contract fits or seizures. It is intended that this medicine or an equivalent will be used for an extended period.

This information sheet will detail the minimum level of examination needed to allow us to continue to dispense the drug safely.

Using the drug

Please read any leaflets we may have given you about the condition we are treating and following dosage instructions carefully. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns about the effectiveness of the medication or any ill-effects your pet may experience.

Typical ill effects for this type of drug include sleepiness, increased appetite, wobbliness. Contact the surgery if these, or any other effects occur.

Dispensing Quantities

Dispensing quantities are at the discretion of the supervising veterinary surgeon. A maximum of three months tablets will be dispensed at any time.

Examination

To meet legal and clinical obligations one of our vets needs to see your pet at least every SIX months. **We may not be able to dispense any further medication if this period has been exceeded.**

Blood testing

To ensure that your pet's health is not compromised during the treatment we will need to test your pet's blood shortly after starting the medication, and thereafter every TWELVE months. We will also measure the level of medication in the blood 3 weeks after starting, once every year and after every dose change.

We may not be able to dispense any further medication if these tests are not carried out as above.

When you are coming for any blood test, please starve your pet for twelve hours prior to the test unless we indicate otherwise but please give medication as normal on the day.

Other investigations or diagnostic tests.

Provided there is a good clinical response and no ill effects, there are no other investigations that would be required on a regular basis.