

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

L thyroxine (forthyron R or equivalent)

Introduction

Your pet has been prescribed L thyroxine to treat the condition Hypothyroidism. It is intended that this medicine 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. There are very few ill effects associated with this drug but 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.

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

We need to check the level of drug in your pet's blood three months after starting medication then every SIX months. Two tests are run on the same day to measure peak and trough levels. We will also need to retest THREE months after any change of dose.

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 remember to give tablets at the normal times on the day of testing.

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.