TRAMADOL (Brand Name: Ultram)

STRENGTH: 50 mg

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ROUTE OF ADMINISTRATION: ORAL. May be given with or without food. This medication is famous for its bitter taste.

ACTION OF MEDICATION: Tramadol is metabolized into the "M1 metabolite" which acts as a narcotic pain reliever with additional antianxiety effects. Dogs do not make the M1 metabolite but cats do.

MOST COMMON SIDE EFFECTS REPORTED: Sedation, constipation, vomiting (mild or limited), dilated pupils.

SEVERE SIDE EFFECTS REPORTED: Seizures (have been reported in humans), respiratory suppression, severe mental disorientation/drunkenness.

STORAGE: Keep away from light and store at room temperature. This is a controlled substance so it should be locked up accordingly.

IF YOU MISS A DOSE: Do not double up on the next dose. Give the next dose as scheduled.

OTHER INFORMATION: Drug interactions with numerous other medications. Be sure your veterinarian knows your pets medications, flea products, and supplements as any of these could be relevant.

"Tolerance" is a problem with tramadol use. This means that over time a given dose will be less effective and higher doses are needed to achieve the same effect. Tramadol is a "controlled substance" which means special paperwork is needed to prescribe it.

For a more detailed presentation, visit: