Equinate™ I.A./I.V. INJECTION

APVMA Approval No. 65128/50221 (Australia) | ACVM No. A10491 (New Zealand)

For IA or IV treatment of lameness associated with non-infectious synovitis and degenerative joint disease

ACTIVE CONSTITUENT
Sodium Hyaluronate 10 mg/mL

PACK SIZE
12 x 2mL vials per outer carton

Indications

Equinate Injection is indicated in the treatment and prevention of lameness in horses due to non-infectious synovitis possibly associated with early equine degenerative joint disease. It is designed for intra-articular administration but may also be used intravenously.

Pharmacology

The active ingredient in Equinate Injection is extracted from the capsule of a selected microorganism and purified to produce an ultrapure form of sodium hyaluronate that is essentially free of protein or nucleic acids. Since this product originates from a microbial source, there is no potential for contamination with dermatan or chondroitin sulphate or any other glycosaminoglycan. This reduces the flare reactions sometimes associated with I.A. injections of sodium hyaluronate. The solution is pyrogen free and sterile. It contains no preservative.

Hyaluronic Acid (HA) is a natural and essential component of articular cartilage and synovial fluid. It is produced by both synoviocytes within the synovial membrance as well as by chondrocytes within the articular cartilage matrix.

HA also constitutes the major component of the capsule of certain micro-organisms. The hyaluronic acid produced by bacteria is of the same structure and configuration as that found in mammals. It is widely accepted that sodium hyaluronate restores lubrication of the joint fluid and regulates the normal cellular constituents. This effect decreases the impact of exudation, enzyme release and subsequent degradation of joint integrity.

HA has the ability to confer extraordinary compressive strength to the articular cartilage when functioning as the core molecule for proteoglycan aggregates. Articular surfaces are covered with a fine layer of HA, which exerts resistance to cartilage compression while still retaining its elasticity. HA also confers viscoelastic as well as lubricating properties to synovial fluid and is responsible for the boundary lubrication of synovial membrances and the lubrication of articular cartilage. These latter properties are believed to be further increased by higher molecular weight formulations of HA.

Hyaluronate molecules are long chains which form a filter matrix interspersed with normal cellular fluids. This supplements the viscoelastic properties of normal joint fluid. Sodium hyaluronate exerts a slight anti-inflammatory action by providing a steric barrier that limits the movement of granulocytes and macrophages into the joint.

Directions For Use

Early treatment is an important step in preventing the products of inflammation from damaging articular cartilage and causing degenerative joint disease.

Strict aseptic technique should be observed when injecting Equinate Injection intra-articularly.

Precautions

Radiographs should be taken prior to administration to eliminate joint fractures or advanced degenerative joint disease. This product does not contain any antimicrobial preservative. Any solution remaining in the vial after administration of the required dose should be discarded.

Dosage And Administration

Intra-articular Injection - The recommended dosage by intra-articular injection is 2mL (1 Vial) (20mg) per joint. A greater volume (eg 4mL/40mg) may be required in larger joints such as the stifle or shoulder. Treatment may be repeated at weekly intervals for a total of three treatments. As with any intra-articular procedure, proper injection site disinfection and animal restraint are important. Excess joint fluid should be aseptically removed prior to intra-articular injection. Care should be taken not to scratch the cartilage surface with the injection needle. Use the smallest gauge needle possible (eg 21 or 20 gauge). Diffuse swelling lasting 24 to 48 hours may result from movement of the needle while in the joint space.

Intravenous Route - 4mL (2 vials) (40mg) per adult horse (450-500kg). Treatment may be repeated at weekly intervals for a total of three treatments.

To achieve best results in cases of intra-articular or intravenous administration, horses should be rested during treatment and given 7 days stable rest after treatment before gradually resuming normal activity.

Racing/Event Withholding Period: If used in performance animals, the regulations of the relevant authorities regarding medication should be observed.

Storage: Store below 25°C (Air conditioning). Protect from light.

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