

Florinef vs. Percorten V

Florinef

1. Florinef (Fludrocortisone Acetate) is an oral medication and must be given daily.
2. It both balances the electrolytes (lytes for short) and provides the steroid needed to replace the hormone no longer made by the dog's own Adrenal Gland.
3. Generally prednisone is only needed in times of great stress and not daily.
4. Florinef is available worldwide and is used very successfully.
5. The starting dose is 0.1mg for every 10lbs of body weight.
6. The total daily dose is normally split equally and given in the am and pm.
7. Florinef is a human medication that is used for dogs but dogs taking Florinef do not metabolize the drug as well as humans and often need their dose increased over time..
8. Florinef can be purchased in some countries in compounded form which means the total dose can be put into one capsule and this is at a much lower cost than the brand name Florinef tablets.
9. Florinef can be purchased with a prescription at any drugstore or online which is often cheaper than buying it from the Vet.
10. Lytes should be tested weekly until the correct dose is established and then monthly for three months, then every 3 to 6 months.
11. Anytime the dose of Florinef is adjusted the 'lytes should be tested 5 to 7 days later to ensure the adjustment did what it was supposed to.
12. There is no maximum dose of Florinef, the dog must take whatever is needed to keep the lytes balanced.

Percorten V

1. Percorten-V or DOCP is an IM or SubQ injection given every 25 - 30 days..
2. A drug like prednisone is also required in a very small "daily" dose.
3. Percorten V takes immediate control over the electrolytes.
4. The Low dose Protocol starts dogs on .45mg/lb which works very well. Dr. Julia Bates DVM, DACVIM (SAIM)
5. There is no minimum dose.

6. The electrolytes are monitored at day 14 and then day 25 on average the first month and then just prior to injections to adjust the dose until the "Lowest Effective Dose" (LED) is found.
7. Percorten V is only available in the US, Canada, and Australia.
8. Percorten can be purchased online at reduced cost with a prescription.
9. You can view the product insert for Percorten here: <http://www.percorten.novartis.us/pdf/PercortenV-product-info.pdf>