

Amantadine

(Lysovir*, Symmetrel*) POM

- **Client Information Leaflet:** [Amantadine](#)
- **Formulations**

Oral: 25 mg, 50 mg, 75 mg, 100 mg capsules; 10 mg/ml syrup.

- **Action**

Provides analgesia through *N*-methyl-D-aspartate antagonist action which may potentiate the effects of other analgesics.

- **Use**

- Adjunctive analgesic in animals that are unresponsive to NSAIDs, or that require chronic pain relief in a home environment (e.g. osteoarthritis or cancer pain).
- Physical activity was improved in dogs with osteoarthritis that were refractory to an NSAID, suggesting that amantadine might be a useful adjunct in the clinical management of canine osteoarthritic pain.
- In a small study in cats with osteoarthritis, amantadine caused sedation but increased owner reported quality of life and decreased pain scores.

- **DOSES**

- **Dogs** 3.0–5.0 mg/kg p.o. q24h. Pharmacokinetic studies in Greyhounds suggest that twice daily dosing may be necessary in some animals. Note that there is a limited evidence base for the currently recommended dose range.
- **Cats** 3.0–5.0 mg/kg p.o. q24h; start at the lowest dose and increase slowly. Higher doses (5.0 mg/kg) may be associated with sedation. Note that there is a limited evidence base for the currently recommended dose range.