

Amitriptyline

(Amitriptyline*) POM

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

Oral: 10 mg, 25 mg, 50 mg tablets; 5 mg/ml, 10 mg/ml solutions.

- **Action**

Blocks noradrenaline and serotonin reuptake in the brain, resulting in antidepressive activity. Also stabilizes mast cells so can reduce impact of inflammatory irritation.

- **Use**

- Management of chronic anxiety problems, including compulsive disorders and potentially separation anxiety in dogs (note authorized medications are available for the latter indication).
- Management of psychogenic alopecia, hypervocalization and idiopathic cystitis in cats.

The non-specific serotonergic reuptake inhibitor clomipramine and specific serotonin reuptake inhibitor fluoxetine are both authorized preparations for use in dogs. It is claimed that clomipramine may have better anticomulsive properties. Amitriptyline is bitter and can be very distasteful to cats. Some caution and careful monitoring is warranted in patients with cardiac or renal disease. Its antipruritic properties may make it useful in anxiety-related conditions featuring inflammation, such as certain acral lick lesions and idiopathic cystitis.

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- **DOSES**

- **Dogs** 1–2 mg/kg p.o. q12–24h.
- **Cats** 0.5–1 mg/kg p.o. q24h.