

## Melatonin

### (Circadin) POM

- **Formulations**

Oral: 2 mg and 3 mg tablets. Melatonin is also available in many over-the-counter formulations of various sizes and often with other drugs added.

- **Action**

Hormone which is involved in the neuroendocrine control of seasonal hair loss, although the exact mechanism is not known.

- **Use**

- Treatment of hair cycling disorders in dogs; in particular the treatment of alopecia X and seasonal flank alopecia.

A 4–6 week trial is recommended, if no growth is noted then treatment should be discontinued. For seasonal flank alopecia, treatment may have to be repeated the following year. The effect of melatonin on hair regrowth in dogs with non-pruritic alopecia of unknown aetiology is variable and every effort should be made to identify the underlying disorder before starting this therapy. Oral bioavailability of melatonin in dogs is unknown

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- **DOSES**

- **Dogs** Hair cycling disorders: 3–6 mg (total dose) p.o. q8h.
- **Cats** No information available.