

Famotidine

(Famotidine*) POM

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

Oral: 20 mg, 40 mg tablets.

- **Action**

Histamine (H₂) receptor antagonist blocking histamine-induced gastric acid secretion. Many times more potent than cimetidine, but has poorer oral bioavailability (37%). Famotidine is not antiemetic.

- **Use**

- Management of gastric and duodenal ulcers, idiopathic, uraemic or drug-related erosive gastritis, oesophagitis, and hypersecretory conditions secondary to gastrinoma, mast cell neoplasia or short bowel syndrome.

Currently, cimetidine is the only anti-ulcer drug with a veterinary market authorization. Famotidine has little effect on GI motility in humans. In healthy dogs, famotidine did increase intragastric pH, but to a lesser degree than omeprazole and not to a degree that would suggest therapeutic efficacy when assessed by criteria used for humans with acid-related disease. Famotidine was less effective than omeprazole in preventing exertion-induced gastritis in racing sled dogs. When given every day, effect on gastric pH diminished with time in studies in dogs and cats. Combination therapy with pantoprazole was not superior to pantoprazole alone. Famotidine was not helpful in reducing GI adverse effects in dogs receiving piroxicam for cancer.

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- **DOSES**

- **Dogs, Cats: All uses:** 0.5–1.0 mg/kg p.o. q12–24h.