

Thiamazole (Methimazole)

(Felimazole (c), Thiafeline (c), Thyronorm (c)) POM-V

- **Formulations**

Oral: 1.25 mg, 2.5 mg, 5 mg tablets; 5 mg/ml solution. Also available as a transdermal formulation on a named patient basis.

- **Action**

Interferes with thyroid hormone synthesis by inhibiting thyroid peroxidase. Has no effect on iodine uptake, peripheral de-iodination of thyroxine (T4) to triiodothyronine (T3) or release of stored hormone.

- **Use**

- Control of thyroid hormone levels in cats with hyperthyroidism.

Most hyperthyroid cats achieve euthyroidism within 2–3 weeks of starting treatment. Monitor therapy on the basis of serum thyroxine concentrations and adjust dose accordingly for long-term medical management. Assess haematology, biochemistry and serum total T4 after 3, 6, 10 and 20 weeks and thereafter every 3 months, adjusting dosage as necessary. If T4 remains high, then increase methimazole in increments of 1.25–2.5 mg per day. Transdermal thiamazole gels are also used in hyperthyroid cats, particularly in fractious cats or in those that develop GI side effects from oral formulations. However, this route is not as reliable as oral medication or as safe for humans who apply the gel.

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- **DOSES**

- **Dogs** Hyperthyroidism: 2.5–5 mg/dog p.o. q12h depending on size.
- **Cats** Hyperthyroidism: 2.5 mg/cat p.o. q12h. Apply transdermal gel to pinna. The dose may need to be increased over time.