

Mycophenolate mofetil (MMF, Mycophenolic acid)

(CellCept* (MMF), Myfortic* (MPA)) POM

- **Formulations**

Oral: 180 mg, 360 mg tablets; 250 mg capsules, 500 mg tablets, 1 g/5 ml powder for oral suspension (MMF). Injectable: 500 mg powder for reconstitution and slow i.v. infusion (mycophenolic acid).

- **Action**

Inhibits the enzyme that controls the rate of synthesis of guanine monophosphate in the *de novo* pathway of purine synthesis. This pathway is important in the proliferation of B and T lymphocytes. This action is similar to that of azathioprine.

- **Use**

- Management of immune-mediated disease including immune-mediated haemolytic anaemia, immune-mediated polyarthritis, immune-mediated skin disease, immune-mediated thrombocytopenia and myasthenia gravis.

In humans, mycophenolate is more lymphocyte specific and less bone marrow suppressive than azathioprine.

- **DOSES**

See Appendix for immunosuppression protocols.

- **Dogs**
 - Immune-mediated disease: 8–12 mg/kg (typically 10 mg/kg) p.o., i.v. (give slowly over at least 2 hours) q12h (MMF), the dose can be reduced or given q24h if adverse effects are observed.
 - Pemphigus: 7–13 mg/kg p.o. q8h (MMF).
- **Cats** Immune-mediated disease: 10 mg/kg p.o. q12h based on limited experience. Other immunosuppressants may be preferable.