Vincristine

(Oncovin*, Vincristine*) POM

- **Formulations**

Injectable: 1 mg, 2 mg, 5 mg vials.

- **Action**

Interferes with microtubule assembly, causing metaphase arrest and ultimately resulting in cell death. Vincristine can also induce thrombocytosis through an unknown mechanism.

- **Use**
    - With other neoplastic agents in the treatment of canine and feline neoplastic diseases, particularly lymphoproliferative disorders.
    - Management of immune-mediated thrombocytopenia to stimulate release of platelets.
    - Treatment of transmissible venereal tumour.

Use with caution in patients with hepatic disease, leucopenia, infection, or pre-existing neuromuscular disease. Potentially a neurotoxic substrate of P-glycoprotein, use with caution in herding breeds (e.g. collies) that may have the *ABCB1* gene mutation that causes a non-functional glycoprotein. Solution is locally irritant and must be administered i.v. through a carefully pre-placed catheter.

More +

- **DOSES**

See Appendix for chemotherapy protocols and conversion of bodyweight to body surface area.

- **Dogs, Cats**
    - Transmissible venereal tumours: 0.5 mg/m^2(up to a maximum dose of 1 mg) i.v. q7d for 4–6 weeks.
    - Other neoplastic diseases: usual doses are 0.5–0.75 mg/m^2 i.v. every 1–3 weeks, dependent upon protocol used.
    - To increase circulating platelet numbers: 0.02 mg/kg i.v. once (limited reports of the use of vincristine to raise circulating platelet numbers in cats, in three reported cases it provided minimal or no improvement to platelet count).