

# Oral Administration of Homeopathic Medications to Animals

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Whenever available, an ampule or oral vial is the pharmaceutical form of choice for oral use in animals. The easiest method of administration is to draw the contents of the vial into a syringe, remove the needle, and slowly empty the syringe directly into the mouth or the cheek pouch. This method is usually well tolerated, even by cats.

When administering tablets and drops, the following methods have been used successfully:

**Horses** Tablets can be crushed and sprinkled over favorite food such as oats.

Drops are placed on a piece of bread, usually taken by the horse.

**Cattle/pigs** Mix together crushed tablets and drops which have been slightly diluted with water and spray this mixture over the high energy feed which they usually eat quickly.

**Dogs** Tablets can be crushed and mixed into the food. With some dogs, tablets may be used whole in the food. Or crush the tablet, stick it on a moist finger, and place it directly onto the dog's tongue or gums.

Drops may be shaken directly onto the lips or mixed with a little water

and put in the mouth on a spoon or with a syringe with no needle. For reluctant dogs, place the drops on the nose or paws and the dog will lick it up.

## Cats

Tablets can be crushed and smeared with a moist finger directly on the lips, gums, or paws; the cat's self-grooming will introduce the medication. Or place the tablet, whole or crushed, in the cat's food. Another method is to place the tablet directly into the cat's throat. This is, however, frequently problematic.

Drops are rarely accepted by felines. One method is to dilute the drops with a little water and apply them with a needle-less syringe upon the gums, lips, or front paws.

## Small animals/ Birds

Tablets should be crushed and mixed with food or dissolved in drinking water.

Drops offer the best method. They can be mixed in the water and are usually not resisted strongly. With oral vials, one to three vials may be added to 8 ounces of water.

Here is a specific therapeutic listing of preparations indicated for treatment of caged birds and chickens:

- *Injuries*: Traumeel®
- *Cardiac support*: Cralonin®
- *Respiratory infections*: Gripp-Heel®, Euphorbium compositum
- *Viral infections*: Engystol®
- *Digestive disorders*: Nux vomica-Homaccord®
- *Vomiting, often inflammation of the crop*: Mucosa compositum®
- *Renal disorders*: Solidago compositum
- *Eczema*: Traumeel®, Cutis compositum®
- *Egg-laying disorders, often in budgerigars*: Hormeel

According to my experience, there is a pronounced effect from oral medications with animals, even when the medication is simply swallowed. Obviously the recommended dosage is high enough to cause a healing effect. Whatever the selected dosage form, it is preferable to have a good contact between the homeopathic medication and the oral mucosa since that provides a reliable and predictable effect.

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