**Buprenorphine SR™**

**Description**

Buprenorphine SR™ is a patented injectable, sustained-release polymer system designed to release Buprenorphine over a 72-hour period.

**Key Features of Buprenorphine SR™**

- Provides sustained release delivery of buprenorphine in a fully biodegradable liquid polymer matrix
- Provides therapeutic blood levels of analgesia for perioperative and postoperative use (*based on published studies*[^1-2])
- Formulation can be injected subcutaneously through needles as small as 23 gauge.

**How Supplied and Storage**

- Upon receipt, the Buprenorphine SR should be stored under refrigeration to ensure stability of the formulation.
- Prior to administration, the entire 5 mL vial should be brought to room temperature for ease of injection by removing it from the refrigerator at least 30 minutes prior to use.

**Recommended Single-Injection Dose Rates for Pain Management in:**

- **Cats:** 0.12 mg/kg*
- **Dogs**: 0.03 – 0.06 mg/kg*

* Dose rates above are based on clinical research experience and formal studies. If administering Buprenorphine SR for the first time, it is suggested that initial dose determination be based on lowest dosing recommendations. Practitioners and clinicians should rely on their professional experience and judgment when prescribing Buprenorphine SR.

**FAQ’s Regarding Optimal Administration**

**Is the Buprenorphine SR sent in a refrigerated shipment?**

Buprenorphine generally is not shipped with cold packs and temporary variations in product temperature will not affect the product’s effectiveness. Store the vial(s) in the refrigerator to maintain long-term stability for this product.

**Should the Buprenorphine be at room temperature for use?**

The Buprenorphine SR formulation is viscous when cold and should at least be brought to room temperature for 30-60 minutes prior to use. This makes it easier to draw-up and slowly inject the desired Buprenorphine SR dose. (NOTE: It is not necessary to keep putting the vial in and out of refrigeration while using it during the day. For optimal stability, the vial should be kept in the refrigerator as much as possible at all other times.)

**Are there any other helpful injection guidelines I should follow?**

Some researchers have reported that placing the Buprenorphine SR vial in a warm water bath and bringing it to animal body temperature prior to injection, reduces viscosity and decreases animal discomfort (i.e. stinging) during administration.

**What is the shelf life for Buprenorphine SR?**

ZooPharm is a compounding pharmacy. Expiration is one year from date of compounding. Typically vials of Buprenorphine SR will expire 10-12 months from the date of purchase. To find expiry date, ask our staff when placing your order.

**Precautions and Possible Side Effects**

I. Buprenorphine should be used with caution in animals with head trauma, compromised cardiovascular function, liver disease and geriatric or severely debilitated animals.

II. A rare, but possible side effect of buprenorphine is a slowed breathing rate in some dogs, so it should not be used to treat a dog with heart failure, head trauma or respiratory issues.

III. Geriatric dogs or dogs with Addison’s disease, an underactive thyroid gland, must be treated with caution when using buprenorphine.

**References**

1. Foley PC, Liang H; Crichtow AR Evaluation of a sustained release formulation of buprenorphine for analgesia in rats. JAALAS Vol 50, No 2, March 2011, 198–204
2. Catbagan DL; Quinby JM; Mana KR, Rychel JK, Mich PM Comparison of the efficacy and adverse effects of sustained-release buprenorphine hydrochloride following subcutaneous administration and buprenorphine hydrochloride following oral transmucosal administration in cats undergoing ovariohysterectomy. AJVR, Vol 72, No 4, April 2011, 461-466

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