

BLUE CROSS ANIMAL HOSPITAL
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AMITRIPTYLINE

Amitriptyline, (Elavil), is used to treat separation anxiety in your dog or to treat excessive grooming, urine spraying or anxiety in cats. This medication may also be used to prevent itching in dogs, to treat neuropathic pain, or to decrease the signs of urinary tract inflammation in cats. Amitriptyline is a tricyclic antidepressant.

How do I give this medication?

- Give this medication to your pet as directed by your veterinarian. **READ THE LABEL CAREFULLY.**
- Try to give this medication at about the same time each day.
- **DO NOT** give more medicine or more frequently than directed.
- **DO NOT** stop giving this medication suddenly unless directed by your veterinarian. Call ahead for prescription refills rather than running out.
- It may take several weeks before effects of the medication are noted.
- If you miss a dose give the medication as soon as possible. If it is almost time for the next dose skip the missed dose. Do not give the pet two doses at one time.



How do I store this medicine?

- Keep this medicine out of reach of children.
- Store this medication in a cool, dry place at room temperature. Store away from heat and direct sunlight. Do not store in the bathroom or near the kitchen sink.

What are the potential side effects?

- The most noted side effects include drowsiness, dry mouth, urine retention, constipation and a faster heart rate.
- Your pet may experience some excitement, disorientation, hyperactivity and stomach upset. If these symptoms persist, contact your veterinarian.
- Other noted symptoms: seizures, tremors and irregular heartbeat.
- Notify your veterinarian if symptoms are troublesome and continue.
- Other side effects may occur. If you notice anything unusual, contact your veterinarian.

Are there any possible drug interactions?

- The following drugs can potentially interact with amitriptyline: amitraz, selegiline, barbiturates, sedatives, epinephrine, norepinephrine, antithyroid drugs, and cimetidine.
- Contact your veterinarian if your pet experiences any unusual reactions when different medications are given together.