

Dosing Guides for Common Veterinary Drugs

Guidance for use:

- These dosing guides have been created to aid in accurate dosing of common veterinary medications. They do NOT provide permission for administering the drug, this must be sought from the NVS and researcher prior to administration.
- Doses are given to the level of accuracy that can be achieved with a standard 1ml syringe. Where an animal is between the weights listed in the table then round to the closest listed weight, either up or down.
- The drug formulations given are the most commonly used. Please ensure that the concentration matches the concentration given near the top of the page to ensure that the doses administered are correct.
- Doses are calculated as general recommendations. Any study specific or NVS guidance should be followed over this document if there are differences.

MELOXICAM

Brand names:

Metacam, Rheumocam,
Loxicom

Concentration:

1.5mg/ml (oral suspension for
dogs)

Dilution:

As supplied – do not need to
dilute

Dose:

10mg/kg

Frequency:

Every 24 hours



Weight (g)	Dose in ml
10	0.07
12	0.08
14	0.09
16	0.11
18	0.12
20	0.13
22	0.15
24	0.16
26	0.17
28	0.19
30	0.20
32	0.21
34	0.23
36	0.24
38	0.25
40	0.27

Considerations:

- Do not give alongside steroids
- Care if pre-existing gastrointestinal, renal or hepatic disease, or if decreased circulating blood volume (e.g. shock models)

Giving to mouse:

- Direct from syringe (1ml)
- In jelly, Nutella or wet mash – please contact surgery tech for further details of how to prepare.

MOUSE ORAL ANALGESIA

CARPROFEN

Brand names:

Carprieve, Vetprofen, Rimadyl, Carprovet

Concentration:

50 mg/ml (small animal solution for injection)

Dilution:

1 in 10, so 1ml of carprofen with 9ml sterile water

Dose:

10mg/kg

Frequency:

Every 24 hours



Weight (g)	Dose in ml
10	0.02
12	0.02
14	0.03
16	0.03
18	0.04
20	0.04
22	0.04
24	0.05
26	0.05
28	0.06
30	0.06
32	0.06
34	0.07
36	0.07
38	0.08
40	0.08

Considerations:

- Do not give alongside steroids
- Care if pre-existing gastrointestinal, renal or hepatic disease, or if decreased circulating blood volume (e.g. shock models)

Giving to mouse:

- Direct from syringe (1ml)
- In jelly, Nutella or wet mash – please contact surgery tech for further details of how to prepare.

MOUSE ORAL ANALGESIA

BUPRENORPHINE

Brand names:

Vetergesic, Buprecare, Buprevet

Concentration:

0.3mg/ml solution for injection

Dilution:

As supplied, do not need to dilute

Dose:

1mg/kg

Frequency:

Every 8-12 hours



Weight (g)	Dose in ml
10	0.03
12	0.04
14	0.05
16	0.05
18	0.06
20	0.07
22	0.07
24	0.08
26	0.09
28	0.09
30	0.10
32	0.11
34	0.11
36	0.12
38	0.13
40	0.13

Considerations:

- Can cause sedation and pica (eating non-nutritive substances e.g. bedding)
- Long acting versions of buprenorphine exist but are not currently readily available in the UK.

Giving to mouse:

- Direct from syringe (1ml)
- In jelly, Nutella or wet mash – please contact surgery tech for further details of how to prepare.

MOUSE ORAL ANALGESIA

MELOXICAM

Brand names:

Metacam, Rheumocam,
Loxicom

Concentration:

2mg/ml (injectable solution for
cats)

Dilution:

As supplied – do not need to
dilute

Dose:

10mg/kg

Frequency:

Every 24 hours



Weight (g)	Dose in ml
10	0.05
12	0.06
14	0.07
16	0.08
18	0.09
20	0.10
22	0.11
24	0.12
26	0.13
28	0.14
30	0.15
32	0.16
34	0.17
36	0.18
38	0.19
40	0.20

Considerations:

- Do not give alongside steroids
- Care if pre-existing gastrointestinal, renal or hepatic disease, or if decreased circulating blood volume (e.g. shock models)

Giving to mouse:

- Subcutaneous injection

MOUSE INJECTABLE ANALGESIA

CARPROFEN

Brand names:

Carprieve, Vetprofen, Rimadyl, Carprovet

Concentration:

50 mg/ml (small animal solution for injection)

Dilution:

1 in 10, so 1ml of carprofen with 9ml sterile water

Dose:

10mg/kg

Frequency:

Every 24 hours



Weight (g)	Dose in ml
10	0.02
12	0.02
14	0.03
16	0.03
18	0.04
20	0.04
22	0.04
24	0.05
26	0.05
28	0.06
30	0.06
32	0.06
34	0.07
36	0.07
38	0.08
40	0.08

Considerations:

- Do not give alongside steroids
- Care if pre-existing gastrointestinal, renal or hepatic disease, or if decreased circulating blood volume (e.g. shock models)

Giving to mouse:

- Subcutaneous injection

MOUSE INJECTABLE ANALGESIA

BUPRENORPHINE

Brand names:

Vetergesic, Buprecare, Buprevet

Concentration:

0.3mg/ml solution for injection

Dilution:

1 in 10, so 1ml of buprenorphine with 9ml sterile water

Dose:

0.1mg/kg

Frequency:

Every 8-12 hours



Weight (g)	Dose in ml
10	0.03
12	0.04
14	0.05
16	0.05
18	0.06
20	0.07
22	0.07
24	0.08
26	0.09
28	0.09
30	0.10
32	0.11
34	0.11
36	0.12
38	0.13
40	0.13

Considerations:

- Can cause sedation and pica (eating non-nutritive substances e.g. bedding)
- Long acting versions of buprenorphine exist but are not currently readily available in the UK.

Giving to mouse:

- Subcutaneous injection

MOUSE INJECTABLE ANALGESIA

LIDOCAINE

Brand names:

Lignocaine, Lignol, Lidocaine

Concentration:

20mg/ml solution for injection,
also referred to as 2% solution for
injection

Dilution:

1 in 4, so 1ml lidocaine with 3ml
sterile water

Dose:

10mg/kg – MAXIMUM DOSE

Duration:

1-2 hours



Weight (g)	Dose in ml
10	0.02
12	0.02
14	0.03
16	0.03
18	0.04
20	0.04
22	0.04
24	0.05
26	0.05
28	0.06
30	0.06
32	0.06
34	0.07
36	0.07
38	0.08
40	0.08

Considerations:

- Can mix in same syringe as bupivacaine.
- Can lead to reduced heart rate and decreased blood pressure at high doses.

Giving to mouse:

- Subcutaneous or intradermal at site where action desired
- ‘Splash’ into surgical wound

MOUSE INJECTABLE ANALGESIA

BUPIVACAINE

Brand names:

Bupivacaine, Marcaine

Concentration:

2.5mg/ml solution for injection,
also referred to as 0.25% solution
for injection

Dilution:

1 in 4, so 1ml bupivacaine with 3ml
sterile water

Dose:

3mg/kg – MAXIMUM DOSE

Duration:

4-6 hours



Weight (g)	Dose in ml
10	0.05
12	0.06
14	0.07
16	0.08
18	0.09
20	0.10
22	0.11
24	0.12
26	0.12
28	0.13
30	0.14
32	0.15
34	0.16
36	0.17
38	0.18
40	0.19

Considerations:

- Can mix in same syringe as bupivacaine.
- Can lead to reduced heart rate and decreased blood pressure at high doses.

Giving to mouse:

- Subcutaneous or intradermal at site where action desired
- ‘Splash’ into surgical wound

MOUSE INJECTABLE ANALGESIA

ENROFLOXACIN

Brand names:

Baytril

Concentration:

25mg/ml solution for injection,
also referred to as 2.5% solution
for injection

Dilution:

1 in 10, so 1ml enrofloxacin in 9ml
sterile water

Dose:

20mg/kg

Frequency:

Every 24 hours



Weight (g)	Dose in ml
10	0.08
12	0.1
14	0.11
16	0.13
18	0.14
20	0.16
22	0.18
24	0.19
26	0.21
28	0.22
30	0.24
32	0.26
34	0.27
36	0.29
38	0.3
40	0.32

Considerations:

- Care with administration to young animals
- Can lead to diarrhoea due to disruption of normal gut flora

Giving to mouse:

- Subcutaneous injection
- Oral: mix with flavouring e.g. Nutella, orange juice in 1:1 ratio