

Client Information Sheet for Dogs

ProZinc® (protamine zinc recombinant human insulin)

40 IU/mL

This summary contains important information about PROZINC. You should read this information before you start giving your dog PROZINC and review it each time the prescription is refilled. This sheet is provided only as a summary and does not take the place of instructions from your veterinarian. Talk to your veterinarian if you do not understand any of this information or if you want to know more about PROZINC.

What is PROZINC?

PROZINC is an aqueous protamine zinc suspension of recombinant human insulin that is used to reduce high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) in dogs with diabetes mellitus. A veterinarian must prescribe PROZINC for your dog. **PROZINC should be given only to the dog for which it is prescribed.** Keep out of reach of children. Seek medical attention immediately if you accidentally inject yourself with PROZINC.

What is diabetes mellitus?

Diabetes mellitus occurs when a dog has insufficient levels of, or an abnormal response to, insulin. The low insulin levels may result in high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) that could produce the following changes in your dog:

- Increased thirst
- Increased appetite
- High levels of sugar (glucose) in the urine (glucosuria)
- Increased urination
- Weight loss

What kind of results can I expect when my dog is on PROZINC for diabetes mellitus?

Although PROZINC is not a cure for diabetes mellitus, it can help reduce the levels of sugar (glucose) in the blood, which can help alleviate the clinical signs.

What should I discuss with my veterinarian before giving PROZINC?

Talk to your veterinarian about:

- The signs of diabetes mellitus you have observed in your dog (for example, increased thirst and urination).
- The importance of proper PROZINC storage, handling, and administration techniques (for example, how to gently roll the vial prior to each use, the proper appearance of product after gently rolling, how to fill the U-40 syringe with the proper amount of insulin, and where and how to inject the insulin).
- The importance of maintaining your dog under the same conditions for diet, exercise, environment, etc.
- The importance of follow-up visits for testing to determine if dose adjustments of PROZINC are necessary.

Tell your veterinarian about:

- Any side effects your dog has had when receiving other insulin products.
- Any medical problems or allergies that your dog has now or has had in the past.
- All medications that you are giving your dog or plan to give your dog, including those you can get without a prescription.
- If your dog is pregnant, nursing, or if you plan to breed your dog.

What are the possible side effects that may occur in my dog during PROZINC therapy?

PROZINC, like other drugs, may cause side effects. Serious side effects can occur with or without warning. Please contact your veterinarian immediately if you think your dog has a medical problem or side effect from PROZINC therapy. The most common insulin-related side effect is low blood sugar (hypoglycemia).

Signs of low blood sugar (hypoglycemia) can occur suddenly and may include:

- Weakness
- Staggering gait
- Muscle twitching
- Coma
- Depression, lethargy, sluggishness
- Behavioral changes
- Seizures, convulsions
- Death

What actions do I take if my dog shows signs of low blood sugar (hypoglycemia)?

- If your dog is unconscious or having a seizure, this is a medical emergency. Take your dog to the veterinarian immediately.
- If your dog is conscious, rub approximately 1 tablespoon of corn syrup or honey on your dog's gums. When it can swallow, give corn syrup or honey by mouth until your dog is alert enough to eat. Feed the usual meal and contact your veterinarian.

When should my dog not be given PROZINC?

Do not give your dog its prescribed dose of PROZINC if it:

- Is experiencing an episode of low blood sugar (hypoglycemia). Common causes for low blood sugar include excessive doses of insulin, failure to eat, strenuous exercise, changes in the body's need for insulin, diabetes-inducing disease or drug effects.
- Is not eating or is vomiting.
- Is sensitive to protamine zinc recombinant human insulin or any other ingredients in PROZINC.
- Do not give your dog its prescribed dose of PROZINC if you see clumps or visible white particles in the vial after gently rolling.

How should I give PROZINC to my dog?

PROZINC should be given with or right after a meal.

Give PROZINC with U-40 syringes only. Use of a syringe other than a U-40 syringe will result in incorrect dosing. Gently roll the vial until the PROZINC has a uniformly cloudy, white appearance. If there are clumps or visible white particles in the vial after gently rolling, do not use the PROZINC and call your veterinarian. PROZINC should be given according to your veterinarian's instructions. Your veterinarian will tell you what amount of PROZINC is right for your dog and instruct you on techniques for administration.

Can PROZINC be given with other medications?

PROZINC can be given with other medications, but the dose may need to be adjusted due to the medication resulting in either increased or decreased insulin requirements. Tell your veterinarian about all medications you have given your dog in the past, and any medications that you are planning to give with PROZINC. This should include medications that you can get for your dog without a prescription. Your veterinarian may want to ensure that all your dog's medications can be given together.

What should I do if I inject more than the prescribed amount of PROZINC?

Contact your veterinarian immediately and, if your veterinarian is not available, seek other veterinary advice at once.

What should I do if my dog receives less than the prescribed dose, or I miss an injection?

- Contact your veterinarian as soon as possible for advice on your dog's next dose.
- If you cannot reach your veterinarian and your dog is eating and acting normally, give your dog the usual dose at the next regularly scheduled injection time.

How should I store PROZINC?

PROZINC should be stored in an upright position under refrigeration at 36-46°F (2-8°C). Do not freeze. Protect from light. **Use the 10 mL vial within 60 days of first puncture. Use the 20 mL vial within 80 days of first puncture.**

What else should I know about PROZINC?

This sheet provides a summary of information about PROZINC. If you have any questions or concerns about the product or diabetes mellitus, talk to your veterinarian. As with all prescribed medications, PROZINC should only be given to the dog for which it is prescribed and for the condition for which it was prescribed.

It is important to periodically discuss your dog's response to PROZINC at regular checkups that may include blood glucose monitoring. Your veterinarian will best determine if your dog is responding as expected and should continue receiving PROZINC.

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