

Tropicamide Ophthalmic

Mydracyl® is another name for this medication.

How Is This Medication Useful?

- Tropicamide is used in the eye to dilate the pupil. This effect is useful in reducing pain after cataract surgery or eye injury and is also useful in treating glaucoma.

Are There Conditions or Times When Its Use Might Cause More Harm Than Good?

- Condition may worsen with tropicamide use in dogs with primary glaucoma.
- Using tropicamide in the eye more frequently than prescribed can result in serious problems such as colic in horses and a dangerous increase in body temperature in other animals.
- Tropicamide toxicity may also cause some changes in heart rate and rhythm and may cause your pet to be unable to urinate.
- If your animal has any of the above conditions, talk to your veterinarian about the potential risks of using the medication versus the benefits that it might have.

What Side Effects Can Be Seen With Its Use?

- Because tropicamide dilates the pupil, animals will be very sensitive to sunlight and should be kept out of bright light while receiving this drug.
- Most animals will salivate when tropicamide drops get into their mouth.
- Too much tropicamide can result in dry mouth, constipation and vomiting.

How Should It Be Given?

- The successful outcome of your animal's treatment with this medication depends upon your commitment and ability to administer it exactly as the veterinarian has prescribed. Please do not skip doses or stop giving the medication. If you have difficulty giving doses consult your veterinarian or pharmacist who can offer administration techniques or change the dosage form to a type of medication that may be more acceptable to you and your animal.

- If you miss a dose of this medication you should give it as soon as you remember it, but if it is within a few hours of the regularly scheduled dose, wait and give it at the regular time. Do not double a dose as this can be toxic to your pet.
- Some other drugs can interact with this medication so tell your veterinarian about any drugs or foods that you currently give your animal. Do not give new foods or medications without first asking your veterinarian.
- You should always wash your hands after applying this medication to your pet's eyes as it can get into your eyes and cause dilation of the pupil.
- **Dogs and Cats:** Tropicamide is usually administered three times daily after cataract surgery in dogs and cats.
- **Horses:** Horses usually receive atropine sulfate instead of tropicamide.

What Other Information Is Important About This Medication?

- Tropicamide should be stored in a tight, light resistant, childproof container away from all children and other household pets.
- Hands should be washed after application as you may get tropicamide in your own eye and cause the pupil to dilate (get bigger) making it difficult to see or painful to be in bright sunlight.