

Famotidine (*Pepcid*[®])

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SUMMARY:

- 1) This medication is available over the counter in all major pharmacies. You may need a prescription for a compounding pharmacy if your pet needs a special size of the medication.
- 2) This medication is generally safe and well tolerated.

EXPLANATION:

Famotidine is an antacid medication. It is mainly used in the treatment of gastric ulcers and esophagitis. It is occasionally given with corticosteroids like prednisone to help treat any ulcers caused by the steroids.

Famotidine is generally given once or twice a day, and can be given with or without food.

SIDE EFFECTS:

This medication seems to be very well tolerated overall. The majority of animals will not have any side effects from this medication. The following side effects have been reported:

- 1) GI side effects including inappetence, vomiting and diarrhea
- 2) Headaches. dry skin and dry mouth are reported in humans.
- 3) Rarely this medication can cause low red and white blood cells.

