



# Cardiology Northwest

Part of Animal Care Group of Lake Oswego

Gary L. Wood, DVM, Diplomate ACVIM (Cardiology)

[www.heartvet.com](http://www.heartvet.com); [info@heartvet.com](mailto:info@heartvet.com)

3996 Douglas Way

Lake Oswego, OR 97035

Phone: 503-246-9689

Fax: 503-636-2549

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“Collaboration for Compassionate Care through World-Class Medicine”

## THEOPHYLLINE ER (THEO-DUR)

### Why has the doctor prescribed this medication?

Theophylline is used to relieve coughing, wheezing, shortness of breathing and trouble breathing. This works by opening the airway passages of the lungs and increasing the amount of air flowing into the lungs. Sometimes it is used to increase the heart rate.

### How do I give this medication?

- Give this medication to your pet as directed by the doctor. **READ THE LABEL CAREFULLY.**
- Try to give this medication at about the same time(s) each day, approximately eight hour apart and try not to miss giving any doses. Often, we avoid giving it late in the day.
- It is preferred to give this about a ½ hour before meals or two hours after meals.
- DO NOT give your pet more medication than directed.
- DO NOT give the medication more often than directed.
- DO NOT stop giving this medication without first consulting with the doctor.

### What do I do if I miss giving a dose?

Give the dose as soon as possible. If it is almost time for the next dose, skip the missed dose and continue with the regular schedule. Do not give your pet two doses at once.

### Potential side effects

Your pet may experience agitation, nervousness or upset stomach, if these persist please notify us. If your pet has symptoms of nausea, vomiting, excessive thirst, excessive hunger and increased frequency of urination contact us. Other side effects may occur so if you notice anything unusual please contact us or your regular veterinarian.

### Possible drug interactions

- Make sure to tell us what other medication you are giving to your pet.
- The doctor may prescribe two different medications, and a drug interaction may be anticipated. In this case, he may vary the dose and/or monitor your pet more closely.
- The following drugs can potentially interact with Theophylline: Phenobarbital, Phenytoin, Cimetidine, Erythromycin, Allopurinol, Thiabendazole, Clindamycin, Lincomycin, beta-adrenergic blocking agents, aluminum and magnesium antacid preparations.
- Contact us if your pet experiences any unusual reactions when different medications are given together.