

## **Domitor®**

*(medetomidine hydrochloride)*

*Sterile Injectable Solution—1.0 mg/mL*

*Sedative and Analgesic*

*For intramuscular and intravenous use in dogs only*

NADA #140-999, Approved by FDA

**CAUTION:** Federal law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.

**DESCRIPTION:** Domitor (medetomidine hydrochloride) is a synthetic  $\alpha_2$ -adrenoreceptor agonist with sedative and analgesic properties. The chemical name is ( $\pm$ )-4-[1-(2,3-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1H-imidazole monohydrochloride. It is a white, or almost white, crystalline, water soluble substance having a molecular weight of 236.7. The molecular formula is  $C_{13}H_{16}N_2 \cdot HCl$ .

Each mL of Domitor contains 1.0 mg medetomidine hydrochloride, 1.0 mg methylparaben (NF), 0.2 mg propylparaben (NF), 9.0 mg sodium chloride (USP), and water for injection (USP), q.s.

**CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY:** Medetomidine is a potent non-narcotic  $\alpha_2$ -adrenoreceptor agonist which produces sedation and analgesia. These effects are dose dependent in depth and duration. Profound sedation and recumbency, with reduced sensitivity to environmental stimuli (sounds, etc.), are seen with medetomidine.

The pharmacological restraint and pain relief provided by medetomidine facilitates handling dogs and aids in the conduct of diagnostic or therapeutic procedures. It also facilitates minor surgical procedures (with or without local anesthesia) and dental care where intubation is not required. Spontaneous muscle contractions (twitching) can be expected in some dogs sedated with medetomidine.

With medetomidine administration, blood pressure is initially increased due to peripheral vasoconstriction and thereafter drops to normal or slightly below normal levels. The initial vasopressor response is accompanied by a compensatory marked decrease in heart rate mediated by a vagal baroreceptor mechanism. The bradycardia may be partially prevented by prior (at least 5 minutes before) intravenous administration of an anticholinergic agent (see **PRECAUTIONS**). A transient change in the conductivity of the cardiac muscle may occur, as evidenced by atrioventricular blocks. Cardiovascular changes (such as profound bradycardia and second degree heart block) equally affect both heartworm negative and asymptomatic heartworm positive dogs.

Respiratory responses include an initial slowing of respiration within a few seconds to 1–2 minutes after administration, increasing to normal within 120 minutes. An initial decrease in tidal volume is

followed by an increase. When medetomidine was given at 3 and 5 times the recommended dose IV, and 5 and 10 times IM, effects were not intensified but were prolonged.

**INDICATIONS:** Domitor is indicated for use as a sedative and analgesic in dogs over 12 weeks of age to facilitate clinical examinations, clinical procedures, minor surgical procedures not requiring muscle relaxation, and minor dental procedures where intubation is not required. The IV route of administration is more efficacious for dental care.

**WARNING:** Keep out of reach of children. Not for human use.

Medetomidine hydrochloride can be absorbed and may cause irritation following direct

exposure to skin, eyes, or mouth. In case of accidental eye exposure, flush with water for 15 minutes. In case of accidental skin exposure, wash with soap and water. Remove contaminated clothing. If irritation or other adverse reaction occurs (e.g., sedation, hypotension, bradycardia), seek medical attention. In case of accidental oral exposure or injection, seek medical attention. Precaution should be used while handling and using filled syringes.

Users with cardiovascular disease (e.g., hypertension or ischemic heart disease) should take special precautions to avoid any exposure to this product.

The material safety data sheet (MSDS) contains more detailed occupational safety information.

To report adverse reactions in users or to obtain a copy of the MSDS for this product call 1-800-366-5288.

**NOTE TO PHYSICIAN:** This product contains an alpha-2-adrenergic agonist.

**CONTRAINDICATIONS:** Domitor should not be used in dogs with the following conditions: cardiac

disease, respiratory disorders, liver or kidney diseases, dogs in shock, dogs which are severely debilitated, or dogs which are stressed due to extreme heat, cold or fatigue.

**PRECAUTIONS:** In extremely nervous or excited dogs, levels of endogenous catecholamines are high due to the animal's state of agitation. The pharmacological response elicited by  $\alpha_2$ -agonists (e.g., medetomidine) in such animals is often reduced, with depth and duration of sedative/analgesic effects ranging from slightly diminished to nonexistent. Highly agitated dogs should therefore be put at ease and allowed to rest quietly prior to receiving Domitor. Allowing dogs to rest quietly for 10 to 15 minutes after injection may improve the response to Domitor. **In dogs not responding satisfactorily to treatment with Domitor, repeat dosing is not recommended.** Caution should be exercised when handling sedated animals. Handling or any other sudden stimuli may cause a defense reaction in an animal that is sedated.

Domitor is a potent  $\alpha_2$ -agonist which should be used with caution with other sedative or analgesic drugs. Additive or synergistic effects are likely, possibly resulting in overdose. Although bradycardia may be partially prevented by prior (at least 5 minutes before) intravenous administration of an anticholinergic agent, the administration of anticholinergic agents to treat bradycardia either simultaneously with medetomidine or following sedation with medetomidine could lead to adverse cardiovascular effects.

Special care is recommended when treating very young animals and older animals. Information on the possible reproductive effects of medetomidine is limited; therefore, the drug is not recommended for use in dogs used for breeding purposes or in pregnant dogs.

**ADVERSE REACTIONS:** As with all  $\alpha_2$ -agonists, the potential for isolated cases of hypersensitivity, including paradoxical response (excitation), exists. Incidents of prolonged sedation, bradycardia, cyanosis, vomiting, apnea, death from circulatory failure with severe congestion of lungs, liver, kidney and recurrence of sedation after initial recovery have been reported.

**SIDE EFFECTS:** Bradycardia with occasional atrioventricular blocks will occur together with decreased respiratory rates. Body temperature is slightly or moderately decreased. Urination typically occurs during recovery at about 90 to 120 minutes posttreatment. In approximately 10% of treated dogs, occasional episodes of vomiting occur between 5 to 15 minutes posttreatment.

An increase in blood glucose concentration is seen due to  $\alpha_2$ -adrenoreceptor-mediated inhibition of insulin secretion.

**ANIMAL SAFETY:** In target animal safety studies, medetomidine was tolerated in dogs at up to 5 times the recommended IV dose and up to 10 times the recommended IM dose. A single IV administration of 10 times the recommended dose in dogs caused a prolonged anesthesia-like condition accompanied by an increased level of spontaneous muscle contractions (twitching). Repeated IV doses of 3 or 5 times the recommended dose caused a profound sedation, bradycardia and reduced respiratory rates over several hours, accompanied in some animals by occasional spontaneous twitching. Death (approximately 1 in 40,000 treatments) has been noted in clinical use with doses at 2 times the recommended dose of Domitor.

**DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION:** Domitor should be administered at the rate of 750 mcg IV or 1000 mcg IM per square meter of body surface. Use the table below to determine the correct dosage on the basis of body weight.

<b>Body Weight (lb) IV Administration</b>	<b>Injection Volume (mL)</b>	<b>Body Weight (lb) IM Administration</b>
3–4	0.1	
5–7	0.15	4–5
8–11	0.2	6–7
12–15	0.25	8–9
16–21	0.3	10–14
22–31	0.4	15–20
32–43	0.5	21–27
44–55	0.6	28–35
56–68	0.7	36–44
69–82	0.8	45–53
83–97	0.9	54–63
98–121	1.0	64–78
122–156	1.2	79–101
157–194	1.4	102–126
195+	1.6	127–165
	2.0	166+

**Following injection of Domitor, the dog should be allowed to rest quietly for 15 minutes.**

**STORAGE:** Store at controlled room temperature 15°–30°C (59°–86°F). Protect from freezing.

**HOW SUPPLIED:** Domitor is supplied in 10-mL, multidose vials containing 1.0 mg of medetomidine hydrochloride per mL.

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Domitor® is a trademark of Orion Corporation.

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