

## Zuclopenthixol:

SCHEDULING STATUS: S5

### CURRENTLY COMPOUNDED FORMULATION:

Active ingredient(s)	Injectable	Oral equine paste	Oral carnivore paste	Orals for exotics	Oral solution/suspension	Topical treatment	Shampoo	Capsules/Tablets	Oral powder
Zuclopenthixol acetate	✓								
Zuclopenthixol decanoate	✓								

**REGISTERED PRODUCT/ TRADE NAME:** Clopixol Acuphase®, Clopixol Depot®

**PHARMACOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION:** Thioxanthenes

**PHARMACOLOGICAL ACTION:** Zuclopenthixol induces a transient dose-dependent sedation. Its general properties are similar to the phenothiazine tranquillizers. Zuclopenthixol acetate, when dissolved in oil and injected intramuscularly, diffuses rather slowly into the surrounding body water, where it undergoes enzymatic breakdown to release the active component. Zuclopenthixol is distributed in the organism with the highest concentration of drug and metabolites occurring in the liver, lungs, intestines and kidneys and lower concentrations in the heart, spleen, brain and blood.<sup>[1]</sup>

When given intramuscularly, the onset of effect of zuclopenthixol acetate is within one hour, and the effect lasts up to 3-4 days. The duration of the decanoate is extended to 10-21 days.<sup>[3]</sup>

**INDICATION:** For reduction of stress experienced by certain wildlife species when handled, captured or transported.

### DOSAGE AND DIRECTIONS FOR USE:

#### WILDLIFE:

##### Zuclopenthixol acetate:

0.6 mg/kg with 1 hour to effect and lasting 3-4 days.<sup>[2]</sup>

\*This dosage is suitable for most species, but caution must be exercised, rather give a total dose within a range e.g. 150-200 mg total dose in an Eland bull.<sup>[2]</sup>

##### Zuclopenthixol decanoate:

V-Tech has no direct experience with zuclopenthixol decanoate in wildlife.

Some vets use it at the same to double the dose of zuclopenthixol acetate.

### WARNINGS/ PRECAUTIONS/ CONTRA-INDICATIONS:

- Side effects in animals include allotriophagy (chewing, eating anything that comes within range), torticollis, anorexia, shivering, tremors, head swaying, pawing the ground, star-gazing and catatonia.<sup>[2]</sup>
- In the case of accidental injection, seek professional medical assistance. Severe reactions will be unlikely but some of the side effects may require management until the drug becomes depleted.
- Store below 25 °C and protect from light.

### REFERENCES:

1. South African Electronic Package Inserts [www.home.intekom.com/pharm](http://www.home.intekom.com/pharm)
2. Chemical and Physical Restraint of Wild Animals; Second Edition; Edited by Michael D. Kock and Richard Burroughs.
3. The Capture and Care Manual [www.passeidirecto.com](http://www.passeidirecto.com)