

# DOCTORS FOSTER<sup>and</sup>SMITH<sup>®</sup> PHARMACY

## Patient Information Sheet

PO Box 100, Rhinelander WI 54501  
For questions or to consult with a pharmacist, call 1-800-447-3021 Mon-Fri from 9am-6pm CST and Sat from 9am-1pm CST. If you have an emergency situation, please contact your local veterinarian immediately.

## Lactulose

(Enulose, Cephulac)

### Common Drug Name

Lactulose

### Common Brand Names

Enulose, Cephulac

Generic products are available.

### Storage

Store at room temperature in a tight, light resistant container. Protect from freezing. If exposed to heat or light the syrup may become cloudy or dark. This does not appear to affect its potency. Do NOT refrigerate, as the syrup may become too thick.

### Uses

Lactulose is a medication that is used as a stool softener to treat constipation. It is used commonly in cats with megacolon. It may also be used in the treatment of liver disease in small pets and birds to help reduce ammonia that can build up in the blood.

### Dose and Administration

Always follow the dosage instructions provided by your veterinarian. If you have difficulty giving the medication, contact your veterinarian.

Many cats do not like the taste of lactulose, and it may be difficult to get them to accept it.

For cats with megacolon, this medication may need to be given for the life of the animal.

If you miss a dose, give it as soon as you remember. If it is almost time for the next dose, skip the one you missed and go back to the regular schedule. Do not give 2 doses at once.

This medication should only be given to the pet for whom it was prescribed.

### Possible Side Effects

May see increased gas, distention of the stomach (animal appears bloated) and stomach cramping. These side effects usually diminish with time. Consult your veterinarian if you notice any of the above side effects.

Consult your veterinarian if signs of disease worsen or less than 2-3 soft stools per day are produced in dogs, cats, or other mammals.

If your pet experiences an allergic reaction to the medication, signs may include facial swelling, hives, scratching, sudden onset of diarrhea, vomiting, shock, seizures, pale gums, cold limbs, or coma. If you observe any of these signs, contact your veterinarian immediately.

### Precautions

Not for use in animals hypersensitive (allergic) to it.

May alter insulin requirements in diabetic animals.

Use cautiously in animals with fluid or electrolyte imbalances.

To prevent dehydration, make sure your pet has plenty of clean water to drink while being treated with lactulose.

Consult with your veterinarian regarding the physical examinations and laboratory testing necessary prior to and during treatment with lactulose.

### Drug, Food, and Test Interactions

Notify your veterinarian of any other medications, including vitamins and supplements, your pet is taking while your pet is receiving lactulose.

Consult your veterinarian before using lactulose with other laxatives, antibiotics, or oral antacids, since interactions may occur.

No known food interactions.

### Signs of Toxicity/Overdose

Diarrhea and dehydration are the most common signs of an overdose.

If you know or suspect your pet has had an overdose, or if you observe any of these signs in your pet, contact your veterinarian immediately.

*Keep this and all other medications out of the reach of children and pets.*