

Prescription Label

Patient Name:

Species:

Drug Name & Strength:

Directions (amount to give how often & for how long):

Prescribing Veterinarian's Name & Contact Information:

Refills:

[Content to be provided by prescribing veterinarian]

Silver Sulfadiazine (SSD), Topical

(sil-ver sul-fa-dye-ah-zeen)

Description:

Antibiotic

Other Names for this Medication:

Silvadene[®], SSD[®], Thermazene[®]

Common Dosage Forms:

Veterinary: None. **Human:** 1% cream

This information sheet does not contain all available information for this medication and has not been reviewed by FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine. This sheet can help answer commonly asked questions but is not a substitute for medical advice. If you have other questions or need more information about this medication, contact your veterinarian or pharmacist.

Key Information

- Antibiotic cream used for skin infections or burns
- Consider wearing gloves while applying this medication. Always wash hands after applying medication.
- Prevent your animal from licking or chewing at the treated site for at least 20 to 30 minutes after application.

How is this medication useful?

Silver sulfadiazine can be used to treat bacterial skin infections or burns. The FDA (U.S. Food & Drug Administration) has approved this medication for use in humans, but it is not officially approved for use in animals. The FDA allows veterinarians to prescribe products containing this medication in different species or for other conditions in certain conditions. You and your veterinarian can discuss why this medication is the most appropriate choice.

What should I tell my veterinarian to see if this medication can be safely given?

Many things might affect how well this medication will work in your animal. Be sure to discuss the following with your veterinarian so together you can make the best treatment decisions.

- Be sure to tell your veterinarian and pharmacist what medications (including other eye medications, vitamins, supplements, or herbal therapies) you give your animal, including the amount and time you give each.
- Tell your veterinarian about any conditions or diseases your animal may have now or has had in the past.
- If your animal has been treated for the same disease or condition in the past, tell your veterinarian about the treatment and how well it did or did not work.
- If your animal is pregnant or nursing, talk to your veterinarian about the risks for using this medication.
- Tell your veterinarian and pharmacist about any medication side effects (including allergic reactions, lack of appetite, diarrhea, itching, hair loss) your animal has developed in the past.

How long until I will know if this medication is working, and how long will the effects of this medication last?

This medication should start having effects within 1 to 2 hours. Your animal's condition should start improving within 1 to 2 days. The effects of this medication are short-lived, meaning they will stop working within 24 hours.

When should this medication not be used or be used very carefully?

No medication is 100% safe in all patients. Your veterinarian will discuss with you any specific concerns about using this medication on your animal.

This medication **SHOULD NOT** be used:

- On patients that are allergic to it.

This medication should be used **WITH CAUTION**:

- On patients that are allergic to sulfonamides.
- On large treatment areas.

What are the side effects of this medication?

Redness or irritation may occur at the application site, but side effects are uncommon when this medication is applied to a small area. When applied to large areas or used for a long time, possible side effects can include:

- A dry eye syndrome known as keratoconjunctivitis sicca (KCS).
- Changes in blood cell counts

Contact your veterinarian immediately if you notice any signs of an allergic reaction, which can include:

- Swelling of the face, lips, or eyes
- Noisy or labored breathing
- Rash

If my animal gets too much of this medication (an overdose), what should I do?

An overdose can occur if your animal eats the cream or if the treatment area covers a large amount of your animal's body. If you witness or suspect an overdose, contact your veterinarian or an animal poison control center for further advice. Animal poison control centers that are open 24 hours a day include **ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center** (888-426-4435) and **Pet Poison Helpline** (855-764-7661); a consultation fee is charged for these services.

How should this medication be given?

For this medication to work, use it exactly as your veterinarian has prescribed. Always check the prescription label to be sure you are using the medication correctly.

- To prevent contamination, do not allow tube or jar containing the medication to contact the affected area. Place the cream on a clean finger or application device (eg, gauze pad) to apply to the affected area.

- Avoid contact of the medication with your animal’s eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Do not allow your animal to lick or chew at the treated area for at least 20 to 30 minutes after application.
- This medication can be used for various lengths of time. Be sure you understand how long your veterinarian wants you to give this medication. Prescription refills may be necessary before the therapy will be complete. Before stopping this medication, talk to your veterinarian, as there may be important reasons to continue its use.

What should I do if I miss giving a dose of this medication?

If you miss a dose, apply it when you remember and then wait the amount of time between doses recommended by your veterinarian before applying the next dose. Do not double-up or give extra doses.

How should I store this medication?

- Store this medication in the original container at room temperature.
- Keep away from children and animals.

Can handling this medication be hazardous to me, my family, or other animals?

Caregivers with severe sulfa allergies should avoid handling this medication, or they should wear disposable gloves when applying it. Wash your hands after handling the medication.

How should I dispose of this medication if I don’t use it all?

- Do not flush this medication down the toilet or wash it down the sink. If a community medication “take-back” program is available, use this option. If there is no take-back program, throw this medication out with the regular trash.
- Do not save leftover medication for future use or give it to others to use.

What other information is important for this medication?

- Your veterinarian will recommend follow-up visits to monitor your animal’s condition. Do not miss these important recheck visits.
- Use of this medication may not be allowed in certain animal competitions. Check rules and regulations before entering your animal in a competition while this medication is being administered.

If you have any other questions about this medication, contact your veterinarian or pharmacist.

Special Instructions
