





NADA 141-189, Approved by FDA



## ProHeart® 6 (moxidectin)

Sustained Release Injectable for Dogs

### CAUTION

Federal (U.S.A.) law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.

### DESCRIPTION

ProHeart 6 (moxidectin) Sustained Release Injectable consists of two separate vials. Vial 1 contains 10% moxidectin sterile microspheres and Vial 2 contains a specifically formulated sterile vehicle for constitution with Vial 1. No other diluent should be used. A clear or translucent appearance of the vehicle is normal. Each mL of constituted drug product contains 3.4 mg moxidectin, 3.1% glyceryl tristearate, 2.4% hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, 0.87% sodium chloride, 0.17% methylparaben, 0.02% propylparaben and 0.001% butylated hydroxytoluene. Hydrochloric acid is used to adjust pH.

### PHARMACOLOGY

Moxidectin is a semi-synthetic meloxicime derivative of nemadectin which is a fermentation product of *Streptomyces cyaneogriseus* subspecies *noncyanogenus*. Moxidectin is a pentacyclic 16-membered lactone macrolide.

Moxidectin has activity resulting in paralysis and death of affected parasites. The stage of the canine heartworm affected at the recommended dose rate of 0.17 mg moxidectin/kg body weight is the tissue larval stage. The larval and adult stages of the canine hookworms, *Ancylostoma caninum* and *Uncinaria stenocephala*, are susceptible.

Following injection with ProHeart 6, peak moxidectin blood levels will be observed approximately 7-14 days after treatment. At the end of the six month dosing interval, residual drug concentrations are negligible. Accordingly, little or no drug accumulation is expected to occur with repeated administrations.

### INDICATIONS

ProHeart 6 is indicated for use in dogs six months of age and older for the prevention of heartworm disease caused by *Dirofilaria immitis*.

ProHeart 6 is indicated for the treatment of existing larval and adult hookworm (*Ancylostoma caninum* and *Uncinaria stenocephala*) infections.

### DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

**Frequency of Treatment:** ProHeart 6 prevents infection by *D. immitis* for six months. It should be administered within one month of the dog's first exposure to mosquitoes. Follow-up treatments may be given every six months if the dog has continued exposure to mosquitoes and if the dog continues to be healthy without weight loss. When replacing another heartworm preventive product, ProHeart 6 should be given within one month of the last dose of the former medication.

ProHeart 6 eliminates the larval and adult stages of *A. caninum* and *U. stenocephala* present at the time of treatment. However, persistent effectiveness has not been established for this indication. Re-infection with *A. caninum* and *U. stenocephala* may occur sooner than 6 months.

**Dose:** The recommended subcutaneous dose is 0.05 mL of the constituted suspension/kg body weight (0.0227 mL/lb.). This amount of suspension will provide 0.17 mg moxidectin/kg body weight (0.0773 mg/lb.). To ensure accurate dosing, calculate each dose based on the dog's weight at the time of treatment. Do not overdose growing puppies in anticipation of their expected adult weight. The following dosage chart may be used as a guide.

Dog Wt.			Dose Volume		
lb	kg	mL/Dog	lb	kg	mL/Dog
11	5	0.25	77	35	1.75
22	10	0.50	88	40	2.00
33	15	0.75	89	45	2.25
44	20	1.00	110	50	2.50
55	25	1.25	121	55	2.75
66	30	1.50	132	60	3.00

**Injection Technique:** The two-part sustained release product must be mixed at least 30 minutes prior to the intended time of use (See CONSTITUTION PROCEDURES for initial mixing instructions). Once constituted, swirl the bottle gently before every use to uniformly re-suspend the microspheres. Withdraw 0.05 mL of suspension/kg body weight into an appropriately sized syringe fitted with an 18G or 20G hypodermic needle. Dose promptly after drawing into dosing syringe. If administration is delayed, gently roll the dosing syringe prior to injection to maintain a uniform suspension and accurate dosing.

Using aseptic technique, inject the product subcutaneously in the left or right side of the dorsum of the neck cranial to the scapula. No more than 3 mL should be administered in a single site. The location(s) of each injection (left or right side) should be noted so that prior injection sites can be identified and the next injection can be administered on the opposite side.

### CONTRAINDICATIONS

ProHeart 6 is contraindicated in animals previously found to be hypersensitive to this drug.

### HUMAN WARNINGS

Not for human use. Keep this and all drugs out of the reach of children.

May be slightly irritating to the eyes. May cause slight irritation to the upper respiratory tract if inhaled. May be harmful if swallowed. If contact with the eyes occurs, rinse thoroughly with water for 15 minutes and seek medical attention immediately. If accidental ingestion occurs, contact a Poison Control Center or a physician immediately. The material safety data sheet (MSDS) contains more detailed occupational safety information.

### WARNINGS

Do not administer ProHeart 6 within 1 month of vaccinations. ProHeart 6 should be administered with caution in dogs with pre-existing allergic disease, including food allergy, atopy, and flea allergy dermatitis. In some cases, anaphylactic reactions have resulted in liver disease and death. Anaphylactic and anaphylactoid reactions should be treated immediately with the same measures used to treat hypersensitivity reactions to vaccines and other injectable products.

Owners should be given the Client Information Sheet for ProHeart® 6 to read before the drug is administered and should be advised to observe their dogs for potential drug toxicity described in the sheet. Do not administer ProHeart 6 to dogs who are sick, debilitated, underweight or who have a history of weight loss.

### PRECAUTIONS

ProHeart 6 should not be used more frequently than every 6 months.

The safety and effectiveness of ProHeart 6 has not been evaluated in dogs less than 6 months of age.

Caution should be used when administering ProHeart 6 to heartworm positive dogs (See ADVERSE REACTIONS).

Prior to administration of ProHeart 6, dogs should be tested for existing heartworm infections. Infected dogs should be treated to remove adult heartworms. ProHeart 6 is not effective against adult *D. immitis* and, while the number of circulating microfilariae may decrease following treatment, ProHeart 6 is not effective for microfilariae clearance.

### ADVERSE REACTIONS

In field studies, the following adverse reactions were observed in dogs treated with ProHeart 6: anaphylaxis, vomiting, diarrhea (with and without blood), listlessness, weight loss, seizures, injection site pruritus, and elevated body temperature. Dogs with clinically significant weight loss (>10%) were more likely to experience a severe adverse reaction.

In a laboratory effectiveness study, dogs with 4- and 6-month-old heartworm infections experienced vomiting, lethargy and bloody diarrhea. These signs were more severe in the dogs with 4-month-old heartworm infections, including one dog that was recumbent and required supportive care, than in the dogs with older (6-month-old) infections.

**Post-Approval Experience (March 2008):** The following adverse reactions are based on voluntary post-approval drug experience reporting. The categories are listed in decreasing order of frequency by body system:

- General: Anaphylactoid reactions, depression/lethargy, anorexia, fever, weight loss.
- Gastrointestinal: Vomiting (with and without blood), diarrhea (with and without blood), hypersalivation.
- Neurological: Convulsions, ataxia, trembling, hind limb paresis.

Injection site: Irritation, erythema, swelling, erythema multiforme.

