



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

OSPPOS® (clodronate injection)

1. What is OSPPOS® (clodronate injection)?

OSPPOS® (clodronate injection) is a safe and effective FDA-approved treatment marketed by Dechra Veterinary Products for the control of clinical signs associated with navicular syndrome in horses 4 years of age and older. The use of OSPPOS in horses less than 4 years of age has not been studied.

2. What is a bisphosphonate?

OSPPOS® (clodronate injection) is a member of the bisphosphonate drug class. Bisphosphonates are a group of pharmacological agents that have existed since the 1960s and are employed worldwide for osteoporosis and bone abnormalities in human medicine and research. There are two generations of bisphosphonates, non-nitrogenous (non-nitrogen containing) and nitrogenous (nitrogen-containing). OSPPOS is a first-generation non-nitrogenous bisphosphonate. This is the least potent class of bisphosphonate. The nitrogenous bisphosphonates are not approved for use in horses and work on a more complex pathway with a myriad of side effects as observed and documented in human medical literature.

3. How do bisphosphonates work?

Bones undergo constant turnover, with osteoblasts forming bone and osteoclasts resorbing it. In normal bone tissue, there is a balance between bone formation and bone resorption. But in diseased bone tissue, this balance is disrupted. The main effect of a bisphosphonate is to decrease bone resorption and bring the balance of osteoclast and osteoblast activity back to normal by reducing the activity of the osteoclasts. OSPPOS® (clodronate injection) inhibits bone resorption by binding to bone mineral (inhibiting formation and dissolution), and by exerting direct cellular effects on osteoclasts.¹

4. How are bisphosphonates used in horses?

Bisphosphonates are used to treat navicular syndrome in horses. OSPPOS® (clodronate injection) gained approval in April 2014 by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM) as a non-nitrogenous bisphosphonate drug indicated for control of clinical signs associated with navicular syndrome in horses 4 years of age and older. OSPPOS is the only FDA-approved product containing clodronate indicated for the control of clinical signs of navicular syndrome in horses and is available exclusively through licensed veterinarians.² OSPPOS has gained wide acceptance in equine veterinary medicine to address navicular syndrome in an effective and non-invasive manner.

¹ OSPPOS (clodronate injection) package insert.

² FDA Provides Equine Veterinarians with Important Information about TILDREN and OSPPOS for Navicular Syndrome in Horses.
<https://www.fda.gov/animalveterinary/resourcesforyou/ucm406581.htm> (accessed 4/2/19)

5. What is navicular syndrome?

Equine navicular syndrome is one of the most common lameness issues in the adult horse. It is defined as chronic forelimb lameness associated with pain arising from the navicular bone and closely related structures including the collateral suspensory ligaments of the navicular bone, distal sesamoidean impar ligament, navicular bursa, and the deep digital flexor tendon.³ Chronic pain associated with navicular syndrome has been reported as causing one-third of all chronic forelimb lameness in horses.⁴ The syndrome affects horses of many breeds and activity groups, typically 4 to 15 years of age.^{5,6} The exact cause of navicular syndrome is unknown; however biomechanical influences are thought to be involved, causing damage to the navicular bone which leads to increased bone remodeling and bone destruction.

6. Is OSPHOS® (clodronate injection) safe for use in young horses?

The safe use of OSPHOS has not been evaluated in horses less than 4 years of age. OSPHOS has been approved for horses 4 years of age and older because navicular syndrome manifests at this age or older in the horse. The effect of bisphosphonates on the skeleton of growing horses has not been studied; however, bisphosphonates inhibit osteoclast activity which impacts bone turnover and may affect bone growth. Dechra does not promote or recommend the use of OSPHOS in horses less than 4 years of age.

7. What is Dechra doing to promote appropriate use of bisphosphonates?

Dechra firmly believes OSPHOS® (clodronate injection) is safe to use in horses when label directions are followed. We have a strong veterinary team who work collaboratively to ensure consistency, quality and ethical patient care is priority with regards to the use of OSPHOS. Dechra has undertaken significant educational efforts since the product launched to inform the profession on the indicated safe use of the product and have a very high compliance rate with on-label use of the product, particularly in English sport and western performance horses. For example, just since early 2017, the veterinary professional services team has conducted more than 280 educational presentations on OSPHOS. As an American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) Educational Partner, we are committed to working with and for the industry to gain additional understanding of the drug and its use in an on-label manner.

8. What is the re-dosing interval for OSPHOS® (clodronate injection)?

OSPHOS may be re-administered at 3- to 6-month intervals based on FDA approval safety studies. The exact timing of the re-dosing is variable based upon each case. Dechra recommends re-dosing be determined by an attending veterinarian who can evaluate recurrence of clinical signs.

9. What is the detection time for OSPHOS® (clodronate injection)?

The Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI) has listed clodronate, a non-nitrogenous bisphosphonate, as a controlled substance for competing horses, but so far has not published a specific detection time. FEI has published a detection time of 28 days for tiludronate, a non-nitrogenous bisphosphonate similar to clodronate. Dechra supports the 28-day withdrawal period for bisphosphonates as instituted by FEI.

³ Adam's and Stashak's lameness in horses-6th ed./ [edited by] Gary M. Baxter. Wiley-Blackwell, West Sussex, UK 2011; pp 475-593.

⁴ Adam's and Stashak's lameness in horses-6th ed./ [edited by] Gary M. Baxter. Wiley-Blackwell, West Sussex, UK 2011; pp 475-593.

⁵ Colles, CM. Navicular Disease and Its Treatment. In Practice 1982; 4:29-36.

⁶ Dyson, SJ. Navicular disease and other soft tissue causes of palmar foot pain. In Diagnosis and Management of Lameness in the Horse. Ross MW, Dyson SJ, eds. Saunders, St. Louis, MO 2003; 286-298.

Dechra is actively working with an established equine testing laboratory and is beginning an on-label detection study in sport horses who are actively “working” and have navicular disease.

The British Horseracing Authority (BHA) has announced a stand-down period for veterinary licensed bisphosphonates (tiludronate and clodronate) of 30 days. The Canadian Pari-Mutuel Agency (CPMA) has set an elimination guideline of 30 days for horses four years of age and older. Dechra recommends referring to existing rules and regulations governing medication use and consult other jurisdictions and organizations for guidance. For information regarding laboratories available to perform OSPHOS detection analysis Dechra recommends discussing directly with national and international jurisdictions and organizations who have implemented withdrawal times in an effort to ensure confidence in variable substance detection methods, assay results, and interpretation.

10. Is OSPHOS® (clodronate injection) safe for horses intended for breeding?

The safe use of OSPHOS has not been evaluated in pregnant or lactating mares or mares intended for breeding. Bisphosphonates have been shown to cause abnormal fetal development in laboratory animals. The uptake of bisphosphonates into fetal bone may be greater than into maternal bone, creating a possible risk of skeletal or other abnormalities in the fetus. Bisphosphonates may be excreted in milk and absorbed by nursing animals. Although stallions were included in our (Dechra) field efficacy study, effects of OSPHOS on fertility were not studied. Dechra does not promote or recommend the use of OSPHOS in pregnant or lactating mares or horses intended for breeding.

11. What are the known common side effects of OSPHOS® (clodronate injection)?

The majority of adverse events associated with the labeled use of OSPHOS have been mild and self-limiting. Clinical signs exhibited are usually mild and transient and have included symptoms of abdominal pain (colic), discomfort, and agitation.

Bisphosphonates can cause renal toxicity. Higher blood plasma levels may increase the risk of toxicity. Bisphosphonates are excreted by the kidneys, therefore conditions and or medications that impair renal function may increase the blood plasma level and lead to more adverse reactions. Dechra does not recommend the use of OSPHOS in horses with impaired renal function. For additional safety information, please see [full prescribing information](#).

12. Can OSPHOS® (clodronate injection) be used with NSAIDs?

Dechra does not consider it necessary nor recommends pre-medication with a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID). Furthermore, pre-emptive administration of an NSAID could delay renal clearance of OSPHOS and may potentiate negative renal effects. Dechra recommends that NSAID therapy should be discontinued before and after dosing with OSPHOS.

13. What should be done if horse has an adverse reaction following OSPHOS® (clodronate injection) administration?

Dechra recommends monitoring horses for 2 hours following the administration of OSPHOS. If a horse appears uncomfortable, nervous, or experiences cramping posttreatment Dechra advises to hand-walk the horse until signs resolve. Owners should be advised to contact their veterinarian if the horse displays abnormal clinical signs. To report an adverse reaction, or to obtain a copy of the SDS for OSPHOS contact

Dechra Veterinary Products at (866) 933-2472 or support@dechra.com. For more information and complete product information, visit www.dechra-us.com or www.osphos.com.

Brief summary:

As with all drugs, side effects may occur. The most common adverse reactions reported in the field study were clinical signs of discomfort or nervousness, colic and/or pawing. Other signs reported were: lip licking, yawning, head shaking, injection site swelling, and hives/pruritus. Osphos should not be used in pregnant or lactating mares, or mares intended for breeding. Use of Osphos in patients with conditions affecting renal function or mineral or electrolyte homeostasis is not recommended. Refer to the prescribing information for complete details or visit www.osphos.com.

Dechra