

Hyperthyroidism

restoring your cat to its
normal self with Vidalta



FROM **GURRRR...**

www.cat-hyperthyroidism.co.uk



You started to wonder what happened to your little darling...

...and your cat was diagnosed with hyperthyroidism, a common condition affecting middle aged and older cats. All is not lost! By following the advice of your veterinary surgeon and giving Vidalta, you can ensure that your pet is restored to their normal self again. This leaflet aims to provide you with a basic overview of hyperthyroidism and how Vidalta can help.

...BACK TO **PURRRRR**

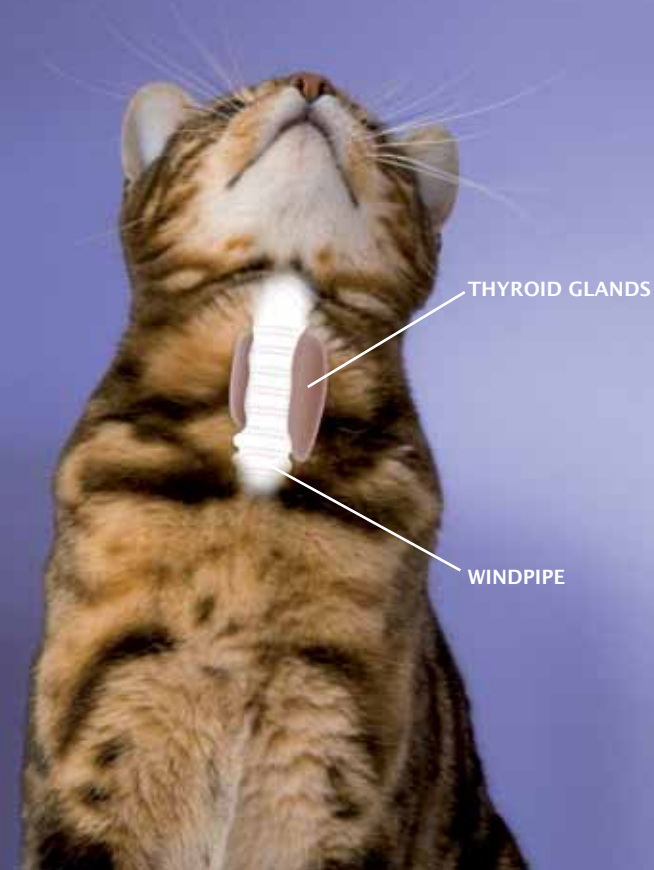


What is hyperthyroidism?

Hyperthyroidism is a common condition affecting cats typically older than 8 years of age. It is caused by an excessive production of thyroid hormone (thyroxine) from the thyroid gland located in the neck. The condition is diagnosed by finding a higher than normal amount of thyroxine in the blood. Thyroxine controls the speed of your cat's metabolism, but when in excess, can cause a range of signs.

Common signs

The more thyroid hormone produced, the higher the metabolic rate becomes and the more calories your cat burns. Common signs are an increased appetite and thirst, weight loss, over-activity, nervousness, weakness, breathing difficulties and a rapid heart rate. Not all of these signs will occur in every cat with hyperthyroidism. It is very important however that cats diagnosed with hyperthyroidism are treated as soon as possible.



The thyroid gland, which is divided into two lobes on either side of the windpipe is located in your cat's neck. The thyroid gland produces thyroid hormones (thyroxine).

Restoring your cat to its normal self

What is Vidalta and how does it work?

Vidalta is a once daily (or, for some cats, every other day) treatment which brings the elevated level of thyroid hormone (thyroxine) in hyperthyroid cats back to normal. By doing so, Vidalta quickly and effectively resolves the visible signs of hyperthyroidism and restores your cat to its normal self.



Starting treatment with Vidalta

Your veterinary surgeon will discuss with you your pet's treatment plan.

Blood samples and revisiting your veterinary surgeon

Once your cat has been diagnosed with hyperthyroidism and treatment with Vidalta commenced, regular visits to your veterinary surgeon for monitoring are vital if treatment is going to be successful. Your cat will initially require its thyroxine level to be checked regularly to determine if the Vidalta dose needs changing. Once the appropriate dose of Vidalta for your pet has been determined, visits will not be required as often.

How should Vidalta be given?

Do not crush Vidalta tablets. Vidalta can be given with or without food but this must be consistent. You should avoid giving Vidalta with food on some occasions and without food on others. It is also important to try and give Vidalta at about the same time each day.



Long term treatment with Vidalta

Once your veterinary surgeon is confident your cat's condition is stable, you will normally only need to visit your veterinary surgeon every three months for a check up. These check ups are essential to ensure that your cat remains happy and healthy. Please contact your veterinary surgeon for advice if your cat becomes unwell at any time.

How long do I need to give Vidalta for?

As Vidalta controls, rather than cures hyperthyroidism, treatment is lifelong.

What should I do if I forget to give a tablet?

If you forget to give a dose, do not worry but do contact your veterinary surgeon for advice. A missed tablet is only likely to cause a problem if a blood test is scheduled in the next few days. Do not give a double dose.

What to look out for

If you start to see any of the original signs of hyperthyroidism returning (e.g increased appetite and thirst, weight loss, hyperactivity, nervousness, weakness, breathing difficulties), the dose of Vidalta may need to be adjusted. Please contact your veterinary surgeon.

A small number of cats may develop some side effects from the medication. These side effects are generally mild (lethargy, inappetence, vomiting) and resolve quickly. Please contact your veterinary surgeon for advice should you notice any of these signs.

What to look out for

- increased appetite and thirst
- weight loss
- hyperactivity
- nervousness
- weakness
- breathing difficulties

By following your veterinary surgeon's advice and using Vidalta, you can restore your hyperthyroid cat to its normal self again. Please contact your veterinary surgery or visit www.cat-hyperthyroidism.co.uk if you would like further information.





vidalta®

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www.cat-hyperthyroidism.co.uk



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Use medicines responsibly.

For more information visit www.noah.co.uk/responsible

This information is provided to owners of cats to which Vidalta has been prescribed. Vidalta contains carbimazole.

Further information is available from your veterinary surgeon.

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