

Maisons-Alfort, 20 July 2012

Press release

The Agency invites veterinarians to declare any adverse effects that may be linked to SERESTO ANTI-PARASITE COLLARS

Within the framework of the veterinary drug monitoring system ANSES has implemented via the French Agency for Veterinary Medicinal Products, the Agency recently registered several cases of adverse reactions in cats and dogs treated with SERESTO anti-parasite collars. The Agency invites veterinarians to send in declarations of adverse effects that may be linked to this product.

Via the French Agency for Veterinary Medicinal Products (ANMV), ANSES has registered a series of non-severe cases of adverse reactions in cats and dogs treated with SERESTO collars. The products, marketed in France since early 2012, are anti-parasite collars containing flumethrin and imidacloprid (Seresto collar for cats, Seresto collar for small dogs, Seresto collar for large dogs).

Analyses of pharmacovigilance data by experts at the ANMV and the National Veterinary Pharmacovigilance Centre in Lyon have shown that the adverse effects described are mainly local, and are more frequent in cats (1 case for 374 cats treated) than in dogs (1 case for 3 030 dogs treated). The reactions observed correspond to the adverse effects described in the notice (hair loss, rash, itching), but in very rare cases the local reaction may be more severe (burns, ulceration). In dogs, the cases declared mainly involve suspicions of product ineffectiveness regarding ticks (1 case for 1 691 dogs treated).

The Agency and the National Veterinary Drug Commission wish to inform veterinary practitioners about these possible adverse effects. The Agency is therefore requesting that veterinarians pay special attention to any new cases they may hear about, and encourages them to submit their declarations via the veterinary drug monitoring system. For information, a declaration form is available on the ANSES and ANMV websites. Thanks to the expert assessment of cases declared using this method, details can be added to the clinical picture for these adverse effects and their frequency can be more clearly ascertained in order to establish the necessary management measures to be taken.

The French Agency for Veterinary Medicinal Products (ANMV), under the authority of ANSES's Director General, ensures missions in the field of veterinary pharmaceuticals. To carry out these missions, it has been given scientific assessment, surveillance and decision-making powers. Among its tasks, it is in charge of providing authorisations for veterinary medicinal products. It also coordinates inspections of veterinary pharmaceutical companies and the pharmacovigilance system and provides drug quality monitoring and control.

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