

Long acting antibiotic injection for dogs and cats  
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Modern medicine is truly a wonderful thing. And things get better all the time. While I was out on maternity leave a new long acting antibiotic injection was introduced to veterinary medicine. It's called convenia, appropriate, since it is so convenient. It is a broad-spectrum antibiotic, which is injected under the skin and lasts for 2 weeks. It is ideal for cats or dogs that don't like taking medicine orally. It can, however, be expensive, especially for larger pets. It has many uses, such as skin infections, abscesses, bladder infections, bacterial ear infections and many more.

Antibiotics are grouped into certain categories based on their activity level against different bacteria. Convenia is a third-generation cephalosporin. We have been using cephalosporins for dogs and cats for many years. In general they are well tolerated. In a study recently published in the JAVMA (Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association) convenia was given to 157 dogs for skin infections and 92.4% of the dogs improved and there were no serious adverse effects.

Dunstable Animal Clinic has used convenia for several patients with great results so far. Most of the patients have been cats or small dogs (under 15 pounds). Of course any animal can be allergic to any drug, and if your pet has already shown a sensitivity to any of the cephalosporins you wouldn't want to use convenia. Otherwise convenia may be a good option the next time your cat or dog gets an infection.