

Anti-ulcer treatment in competition.

Research:

Several studies with sled dogs has shown that approximately 50% of dogs develop varying degrees of changes in gastric mucosa under prolonged load. Therefore is it recommended from veterinarians to prevent this by giving gastric acid depressant drugs before and during race. Famotidine which were recommended before are gone from the market, but the active substance found in small containers with Pepsid. This is an unnecessarily expensive solution. Omeprazole which also was used previously was impractical because it would be given before or after feeding.

We must draw up recommendations where we take into account what exists on the market, the price of the product, and practical use of the product.

This year's recommendation is the active ingredient Pantoprazole, given as 20mg enterotablets. The drug is also in enterocapsules, but tablets are more practical to give than capsules. Pantoprazole is found in products from multiple vendors and trade names, and different pharmacies probably leads different brands.

Recommended dosage is 1 mg / kg, but since this is supposed preventive and not as a treatment, one may well lie low in dosage. The idea is to give as little as possible and as much as necessary. It is recommended to start 4-6 days before the race starts to have stable blood values from the start. The treatment is completed by providing a tablet every other day twice.

This year's recommendation summarised:

Pantoprazole tablets 20 mg, given once daily. Can be given with food. The price quoted in public directory is 160 NOK for 100 tablets.

If you choose to use the drug it must be recorded in a so-called VetForm1, which is on page 4 in the Journal Team (veterinarian book). This is given to you by veterinarians during registration before the race.