

Progestin - Altrenogest (Regu-mate®)

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Fact Sheet Reviewed by: (1) (2)

The EAZA RMG encourages all institutions using contraception to supplement any contraceptive bout with behavioural and hormone monitoring. For more information, please contact contraception@chesterzoo.org.

Commercial Name	
Commercial Name	Regu-mate® Equine; Regu-mate® Porcine
Contraceptive Product	Altrenogest
Product Category	Progestin
Product Availability	Regu-mate® Equine 2.2mg/ml oral solution and Regu-mate® Porcine 4mg/ml oral solution widely available through veterinary drug distributors.
Restrictions and/or permit required by Importing Country	The EAZA RMG recommends always checking with your local licencing authority.
Mechanism of action	Inhibition of ovulation by suppression of the LH surge necessary. Interference with fertilization by thickening cervical mucus. Interrupting gamete transport. Disruption of implantation.
Product information	Product used to suppress oestrus in females.
Delivery Route and dose	Regu-mate® Equine: 0.044mg/kg, administered orally in feed or by syringe. Standard horse dose has been found to be ineffective in tapirs. Regu-mate® Porcine: 5ml daily (100mg altrenogest), administered orally in feed or by syringe. Gloves must be worn when administering Regu-mate® (absorption through the skin can cause disruption to the menstrual cycle and prolongation of pregnancies in humans).
Females	
Latency to effectiveness	1-3 days of treatment.
Oestrous cycles during contraceptive treatment	Oestrus is inhibited.
Managing of initial stimulation phase	Separation of the sexes or alternative contraception methods should be used for 7- 14 days after first treatment.
Use during pregnancy	Progestagens are not recommended in pregnant animals because of the possibility of prolonged gestation, stillbirth, abortion, etc. Progestagens do not appear to interfere with parturition in primates, but this is a taxon-specific phenomenon.
Use during lactation	Considered safe for nursing infant.
Use in prepubertals or juveniles	The use of synthetic progestagens in pre-pubertals or juveniles has not been fully assessed. Possible long-term effects on fertility are not known.
Use in seasonal breeders	Treatment should begin at least one month before the anticipated onset of the breeding season.
Duration	Not more than one day. Regu-mate® must be given daily to maintain suppression of oestrus.
Reversibility	It should be reversible after cessation of treatment. Signs of oestrus have been observed 5 days after the end of treatment but will vary depending on the individual.
Effects on Behaviour	Regu-mate® can be used to alleviate temperament changes and aggression. Synthetic progestins may not suppress follicle growth and some signs of oestrus

	behaviour may be present.
Effects on sexual physical characteristics	Data Deficient.
Males	
Latency to effectiveness	Not recommended.
Use in prepubertals or juveniles	Not recommended.
Use in seasonal breeders:	Not recommended.
Duration	Not recommended.
Reversibility	Not recommended.
Effects on Behaviour	Not recommended.
Effects on sexual physical characteristics	Not recommended.
General	
Side effects	Progestagens likely cause weight gain in all species. Possible deleterious effects on uterine and mammary tissues vary greatly by species. Can cause endometritis in domestic horses and cystic follicles in suids at low doses. The EAZA RMG recommends always reading the manufacturer's data Sheet.
Warnings	This product is contraindicated for use in females with a previous or current history of uterine inflammation. The EAZA RMG recommends always reading the manufacturer's data Sheet.
Reporting Requirements To increase our knowledge of the efficacy of contraception methods it is recommended that all individuals on contraception be reported to the EAZA RMG.	

References

1. <http://www.regu-mate.com/>
2. <http://www.stlzoo.org/animals/scienceresearch/contraceptioncenter/contraceptionrecommendatio/contraceptionmethods/regumate/>
3. http://www.noahcompendium.co.uk/MSD_Animal_Health/Regumate_Porcine_0_4_ACU-_w_v_oral_solution/-57760.html
4. <http://www.noahcompendium.co.uk/?id=-456084>

Disclaimer The EAZA RMG endeavours to provide correct and current information on contraception from various sources. As these are prescription only medicines it is the responsibility of the veterinarian to determine the dosage and best treatment for an individual animal under their care. The EAZA RMG can therefore not be held liable for any injury, damage or contraception failure in an animal.