



Backgrounder

Renalzin®

Renalzin® is a new phosphate binding supplement from Bayer Animal Health. It effectively reduces phosphorus absorption from ingested food and is indicated to support renal function in chronic and acute renal disease in cats.

Its active ingredient is Lantharenol® (lanthanum carbonate), a compound derived from the latest research on renal failure in human medicine. Renalzin also contains kaolin (a toxin binder) and vitamin E, a powerful antioxidant.

Renalzin binds directly to dietary phosphorus within the gastro-intestinal tract preventing absorption into the bloodstream and thereby reduces the burden of excess phosphorus that occurs with chronic kidney failure.

In contrast to other phosphate binders, Lantharenol is not absorbed into the bloodstream and, once the binding process is completed, it is safely excreted in the cat's faeces. Additionally, Renalzin has optimum binding capacities in the pH range 3-7, which is ideal for the stomach and duodenum.

Administration

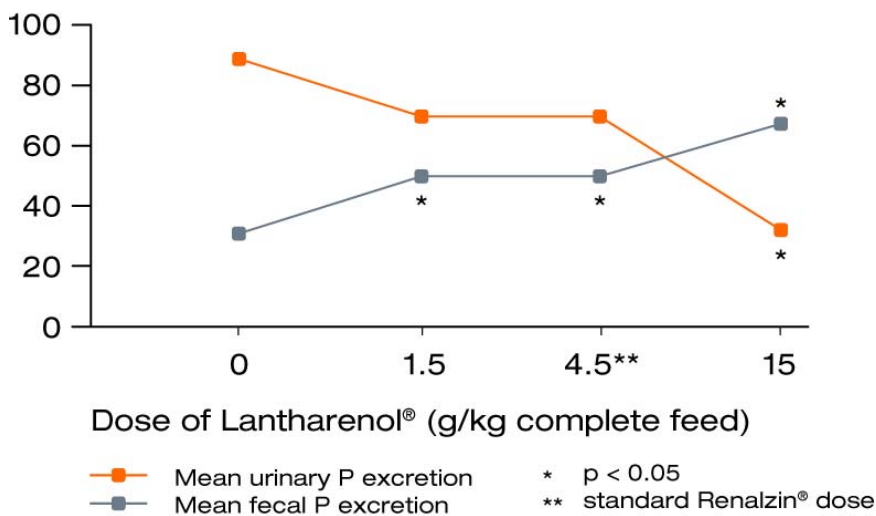
Renalzin is a liquid paste provided in a convenient pump applicator. The standard recommended dosage is 2 mls applied with the cat's food, once or twice daily depending on the cat's feeding regimen. Renalzin can be used with all types of feline diets.

The neutral taste of Renalzin ensures that the acceptance of the food given remains unchanged, aiding compliance. In a recent clinical field study, 85% of cats with

chronic renal disease given Renalzin with their normal diet showed improvement or no change in feed intake (Schmidt B. et al, 2008).

Hyperphosphatemia

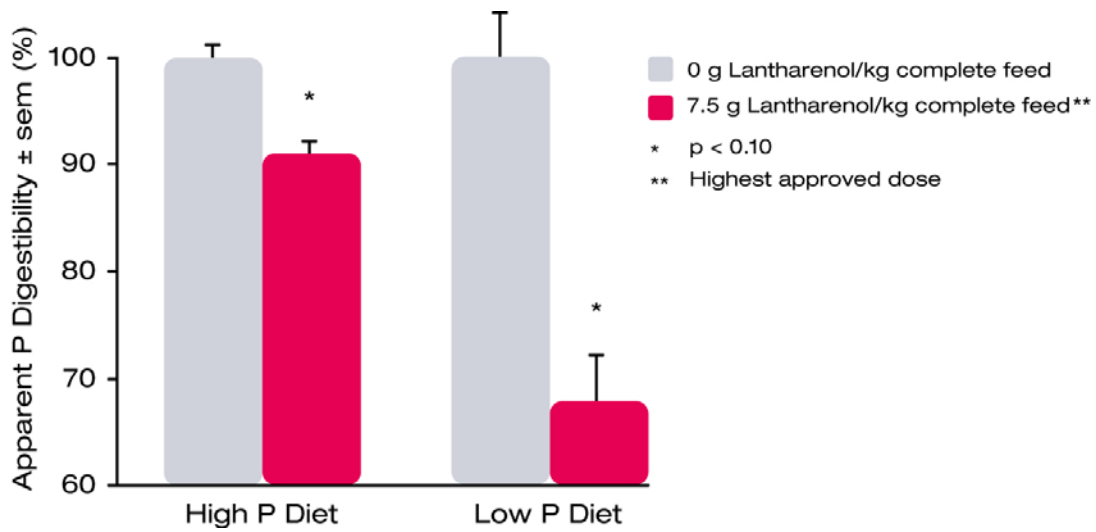
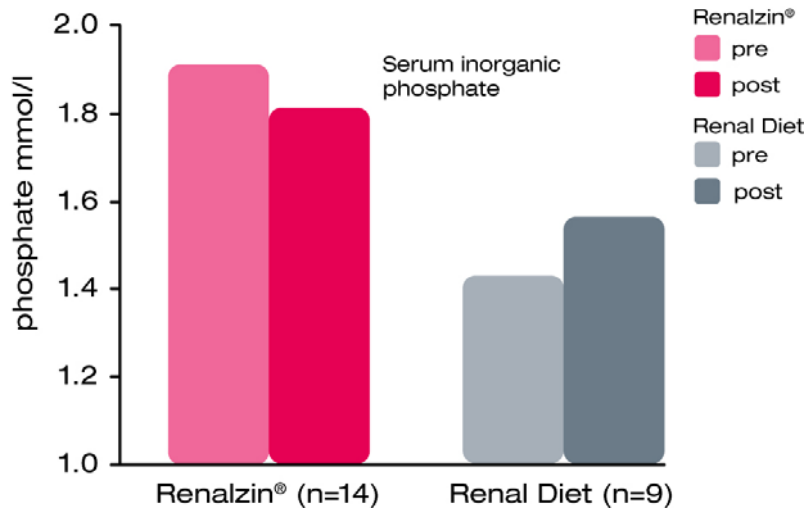
Control of phosphate intake is an essential part of chronic renal disease management. In renal failure, less phosphate is excreted by the kidneys leading to retention of phosphorus (hyperphosphatemia) and calcium-phosphorus imbalance in the body.



This imbalance triggers the parathyroid glands (adjacent to the thyroid glands in the neck region) to become over-active and produce more parathyroid hormone (PTH) leading to a condition known as secondary hyperparathyroidism. The increased PTH hormone levels lead to the mobilisation of calcium and phosphorus from the bones, which can lead to complications such as soft tissue mineralization of the kidneys and other organs of the body, and bone fragility (renal osteodystrophy). Additionally, excess phosphorus plays a pathogenic role in the continued progression of kidney fibrosis and ongoing disease.

The use of phosphate binders can help to reduce excess phosphorous and prevent further complications.

Clinical studies in feline patients demonstrate Renalzin benefits



References:

Schmidt B, Adler K, Hellmann K. The use of Renalzin, a new intestinal phosphate binder, in feline chronic renal failure. Proceedings of the Vetoalp 2008 Conference, France, March 2008, p. 69.

About Bayer HealthCare

Bayer HealthCare, a subsidiary of Bayer AG, is one of the world's leading innovative companies in the health care and medical products industry. The company combines the activities of the Animal Health, Consumer Care, Diabetes Care, and Pharmaceuticals divisions. The company's pharmaceuticals business operates under the name Bayer Schering Pharma AG. Bayer HealthCare's aim is to discover, develop, manufacture and market products that will improve human and animal health worldwide.

With sales of EUR 956 million (2007), the Animal Health Division is one of the world's leading manufacturers of veterinary drugs. The division produces and markets more than 100 different veterinary drugs and care products for livestock and companion animals.

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Forward-Looking Statements

This news release contains forward-looking statements based on current assumptions and forecasts made by Bayer Group management. Various known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors could lead to material differences between the actual future results, financial situation, development or performance of the company and the estimates given here. These factors include those discussed in our annual and interim reports to the Frankfurt Stock Exchange and in our reports filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (including our Form 20-F). The company assumes no liability whatsoever to update these forward-looking statements or to confirm them to future events or developments.