

# Medication is helping dog to stop seizures

DEAR DOCTOR: My dog has been suffering seizures, but since we started giving him Mebroim twice a day, he has not had any seizures until the other day, when he had two mild attacks. He has suffered these seizures for a year.

Should I increase the dosage? Are there any harmful side effects? Would it help to have him neutered? Also, what can we do about his wetting on his front legs?  
ANSWER: Medicating a pet to control seizures is a problem that

requires patience and, sometimes, trial and error to find the right medication and the right dosage for the individual pet. It would not be possible to prescribe the right dose of a medication for a patient without knowing its medical

background, condition and a host of factors that your veterinarian would know because he or she has examined your pet. I have to suggest that you call your veterinarian to seek advice based on first hand knowledge of the situation.

DEAR DOCTOR: Our six-year old cat growls and hisses to herself for no apparent reason. Before and during the growling and hissing, she watches her tail twitch and then she runs to another room. If we try to pick her up or play

with her, she scratches, bites and runs away. Occasionally she also bites her tail and hind legs. She has been spayed and has always been in excellent health.

Our veterinarian has taken X-rays, checked her for parasites and fractures and run a feline profile. It all came out negative. He said that sometimes the ovarian tissue or cells grow back around the other organs surrounding the abdominal area of spayed cats and this could be the reason for my cat's behavior. He said there isn't a test to prove this diagnosis but that there is an injection he can try that would work if this is the problem. Would you please explain the side effects of this treatment or if there is any alternative?

ANSWER: It sounds as though your veterinarian has done a very thorough work-up for your cat's problem. It is important to eliminate infectious causes of such behavior. The type of behavior you describe has been attributed to hormonal changes and to nervous system disease as well as diseases such as feline infectious peritonitis.

Your veterinarian suggested the possibility of using a drug that will modify you cat's behavior. The medication, most likely depo provera, may suppress the personality changes and make your cat a happier individual. If the cat had not been spayed prior to this problem, he would be concerned about possible uterine changes caused by this drug. Another type of drug that might be used is an anticonvulsant. This drug is used if the diagnosis is that of a nervous disorder. It may be necessary to try one drug and then the other to establish this difficult diagnosis.

I believe your veterinarian is on the right track and that you should give him a chance to use the treatment he feels best for your pet.

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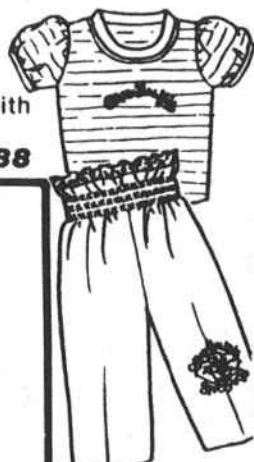
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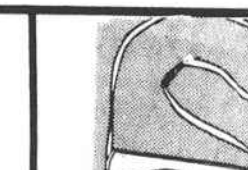
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