

# Kennel Use of Medications and Treatment Records



Ensuring optimal health and welfare through administering medications as directed and the correct recording of treatments



## MEDICATIONS AND TREATMENT RECORDS

The GRNZ Greyhound Welfare Standards set out the requirements for medications and treatment records that must be adhered to by LPs.

All injectable substances used on greyhounds must be registered in accordance with ACVM legislation and must only be administered under the direction of a veterinarian or Veterinary Operating Instruction (VOI).

*Greyhound Welfare Standard 1.31*

Medications, treatments, or supplements must be registered in accordance with ACVM legislation for use in dogs, or prescribed for use by a veterinarian, and must be labelled clearly as per prescribing regulations, or kept in their original container or packaging, and stored securely, according to manufacturer's advice, GRNZ Rule 148 applies.

*Greyhound Welfare Standard 1.32*

Treatment records must be kept, GRNZ Rule 151 applies.

*Greyhound Welfare Standard 1.33*

All expired medications, supplements and injectable substances must be disposed of according to relevant legislative requirements.

*Greyhound Welfare Standard 1.34*

Any treatment that may give rise to a breach of the GRNZ Rules relating to prohibited substances must be stored separately and securely from food stored at the premises.

*Greyhound Welfare Standard 1.35*

Care must be taken when medicating in food to avoid inadvertent administration of medication to the wrong greyhound.

*Greyhound Welfare Standard 1.36*

GRNZ Rules and Welfare Standards set expectations that vaccinations, antiparasitics and any medical treatments must be recorded for all greyhounds in their care. Records must be kept for a minimum of two years.

The Treatment Record template provided in the [GRNZ Kennel Handbook](#) on page 84 or an alternative appropriate treatment record software, App, daily diary or treatment book can be used.

Treatments must be recorded by midnight on the day the treatment was given, and the record must contain the following information:

- a) greyhound's name
- b) date and time of administration
- c) name of the treatment (brand name or active ingredient)
- d) route of administration (oral - in feed, injectable - intra-muscular or subcutaneous, etc)
- e) amount of substance given
- f) name and signature of the person administering or authorising the treatment.

### **Do I need to record every time I use a flea preventative or an all-wormer?**

Yes. If all greyhounds in the kennel are being treated simultaneously, a blanket record for the medication used, listing the greyhounds' names and total number of treatments administered is sufficient.

### **Do I need to record multi-vitamins or mineral supplements?**

In most cases, vitamins and mineral supplements don't need to be recorded if they are given by mouth, as part of normal feeding, and don't contain a prohibited substance. Injectable supplements must be recorded. It is good practice to maintain a record page of supplements provided to all greyhounds as 'ongoing' or 'daily'. This can assist with providing evidence for treatments administered.

### **What about complementary medicines?**

If there is no registered product available for use in dogs in New Zealand, then a veterinarian may prescribe another medicine 'off label'. If no such medicine is available, then alternative treatments should be discussed with your veterinarian.

Veterinarians may prescribe human registered medications for greyhounds 'off label'.

Greyhounds should only be administered medication that is either:

- authorised for use in the greyhound by a veterinarian; and/or
- registered for dogs for the specific use by the Ministry for Primary Industries under the Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines Act 1997.

All 'off-label' or veterinary prescribed medications must be recorded in the treatment record.

See our policy on [Complementary Medicines](#) on the Welfare Rules, Standards and Policies page on the GRNZ website.

## Storing medications and treatments

Most medicines and treatments will have directions on storage included on the labelling or packaging. Medications, treatments and supplements should be kept in their original container or packaging. It is important to follow label information about how the medicine should be stored (e.g. “refrigerate at or below 8°C”).

If there are no specific instructions on the packet, it is best to keep medications, treatments and supplements in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight. Most medicines should be stored at below 25°C. Avoid leaving medicines and treatments in warm places such as in front of a window, where the temperature can rise quickly.

Participants should have a secure medication storage cabinet or cupboard, with medicines stored out of reach of children and animals.

Some medicines and treatments need to be stored in a fridge – if so, it will say so on the label. Liquid medicines and vials often require refrigeration, noting that all treatments must be stored securely, and away from greyhound food.

## Disposing of expired medicines and treatments

All expired medications must be appropriately disposed of. Throwing expired or unused medicines in the rubbish is not proper disposal. Putting chemicals into the drain or landfill can also damage the environment or contribute to antimicrobial resistance.

You can return all prescription medicines and supplements to your community pharmacy. The service is free and the pharmacy will dispose of them safely. Most medicines can be placed directly in the disposal bin provided at your community pharmacy. There are a small number of drugs (such as strong pain medications) that may need to be processed by the pharmacist, so if you are not sure it is best to let the veterinarian or pharmacist know what you are returning and ask their advice on disposal.