

What is Cuvestrequin?

Cuvestrequin is a topical gel barrier for use in horses with broken or irritated skin. It's a suitable alternative to conventional bandages used to support the management of wounds.

What are the ingredients in Cuvestrequin?

Cuvestrequin is made from a natural polymer complexed with metal salts in an ethanol base and using ingredients that are approved by the EU as food and feed additives. The gel is completely biodegradable.

Does Cuvestrequin contain antibiotics or steroids?

No, Cuvestrequin **DOES NOT** contain any antibiotics or steroids.

What are the properties of Cuvestrequin?

- Cuvestrequin provides a hydrophobic, water repellent and waterproof barrier.
- Cuvestrequin is biofilm resistant and non-colonizable.
- The physical barrier provided by Cuvestrequin provides protection from flies.
- As Cuvestrequin contains ingredients approved for use as food and feed additives, it is well-tolerated and safe to use.
- It's adhesive, so can be used to cover areas that are unsuitable for the use of conventional bandages.

How is Cuvestrequin supplied?

Cuvestrequin is supplied in a 90g sealed laminate tube with a screw cap. To dispense the Cuvestrequin gel, remove the protective first-user seal and dispense. Replace the screw cap after use.

How should Cuvestrequin be stored?

Cuvestrequin should be stored in a dry location, below 25°C. **DO NOT** place the product in a refrigerator or in a freezer.

What is the shelf life of Cuvestrequin?

Please see the use-by date embossed on your tube for the shelf life of your Cuvestrequin. Take care to keep the dispensing end of the tube clean and replace the screw cap after each use.

Where can Cuvestrequin be used?

Cuvestrequin is for use on horses where there are areas of broken or irritated skin or as an alternative to bandages for the management of wounds under the direction of your veterinary surgeon. It is advisable to perform a small patch test on each new horse prior to use.

Caution

- **DO NOT** use in or around the eyes.
- Use carefully around the nose and mouth.
- **NOT** suitable for internal use.
- If Cuvestrequin is used over a suture or staple line **DO NOT** reapply within 48 hours of suture /staple removal.

Will Cuvestrequin trap exudate and debris inside a wound?

No, Cuvestrequin is hydrophobic so it repels fluid. It will not adhere to areas where there is significant exudate. The barrier layer will therefore allow drainage through small openings where there is fluid pressure, which allows the exudate to escape.

How to use Cuvestrequin

Site preparation

For best results the body area should be clipped, cleaned, lavaged and debrided (as required), to remove debris and foreign material, then dried prior to application.

Application technique

Wearing disposable gloves, dispense the gel from the tube onto the fingers and apply Cuvestrequin gel in a thin even layer to the affected area. Allow the surface to initially dry for 60 seconds; at this point Cuvestrequin is already waterproof. It is recommended to keep the horse in a stable or yard area for 1 hour prior to rugs or tack being used to allow the dressing to become fully set, reducing the risk of product transfer to these items.

If Cuvestrequin is being applied to a foot or heel area, keep the horse off the bedding material for around one hour post application.

How much Cuvestrequin should I use?

A thin even layer of 2–3mm thick is all that is required. A layer that is too thick will take much longer to dry. A pea sized amount will cover an area of approximately 4cm diameter.

Do I need to remove Cuvestrequin?

No, removal of Cuvestrequin is not necessary. Once set, the gel gradually becomes brittle over 24–72h, then it flakes off and is completely biodegradable.

What should I do if I need to remove Cuvestrequin?

A fresh layer of Cuvestrequin can be removed by gently wiping the area with cotton wool or paper towel. A layer that is 24–48h old can be removed by gently wiping the area with warm water and cotton wool. Please note that this may take a little time to achieve.

A layer of Cuvestrequin that is older than 72 hours will be fully dried and will have already started to flake away naturally.

Can I reapply Cuvestrequin?

Yes, Cuvestrequin can be reapplied. Gently remove any existing flaky product and reapply a new thin even layer over the top.

Any product that is still adhered to the site is protecting underlying tissue so should not be removed. Fresh product can be applied over the top and existing product will be incorporated into the new layer.

How often should I reapply Cuvestrequin?

The Cuvestrequin barrier layer will remain intact for between 24 and 48 hours depending on the location it has been applied to. This time frame may be shorter if there is friction, on a hoof for example, or longer if on an area of the trunk or face.

How long should I use Cuvestrequin for?

Cuvestrequin may be used while the skin is broken or a wound is present that needs protection. Please speak to your veterinary surgeon for advice with each particular case.

Can I use other products with Cuvestrequin?

Cuvestrequin can be used as a gel bandage in the same way as a conventional bandage, i.e. to retain any prescribed therapeutics, including antibiotic sprays, at the affected site for longer. Please speak with your veterinary surgeon for their advice on which products are compatible with Cuvestrequin.

DO NOT use Cuvestrequin with oil-based products or Manuka Honey.

Can my horse be turned out in the field with Cuvestrequin applied?

Yes, unlike a traditional bandage, the waterproof gel barrier layer means that your horse can be turned out in the field. This is one of the benefits of using Cuvestrequin. However please speak with your veterinary surgeon for advice on your specific circumstances.

Can my horse be ridden or lunged if Cuvestrequin has been applied?

Yes, horses can be ridden or lunged after Cuvestrequin has been applied. Please ensure the product is fully dried, around 1 hour, prior to contact with tack. However please speak with your veterinary surgeon for advice about your specific circumstances.

Can my horse wear exercise boots or bandages if Cuvestrequin has been applied?

If you have applied Cuvestrequin to a limb, use of a boot or exercise bandage on that particular limb is not recommended as this may cause friction and remove the gel barrier more quickly. However please speak with your veterinary surgeon for advice on your specific circumstances.

Can my horse wear a rug if Cuvestrequin has been applied?

Yes, horses can wear a rug after Cuvestrequin has been applied. Please ensure the product is fully dried, around 1 hour, prior to contact with a rug. *Please note that rugs with a higher level of friction, for example a mesh fly rug or fleece, will remove the Cuvestrequin more quickly than a turnout rug with a smooth lining.*

What to do if my horse appears to have a reaction to Cuvestrequin?

Please note a patch test is recommended prior to use. However, if your horse appears to have a reaction to Cuvestrequin, remove the gel barrier layer by gently wiping with warm water and seek veterinary advice.

What should I do if I get Cuvestrequin on clothes or tack?

Allow the Cuvestrequin to dry and then brush off material with a stiff brush.