

ProZinc[®]
(protamine zinc recombinant
human insulin)

Canine Treatment Management Guide



Canine diabetes care made easy



IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION: PROZINC[®] (protamine zinc recombinant human insulin) is for use in dogs and cats only. The most common adverse reactions were lethargy, anorexia, hypoglycemia, vomiting, seizures, shaking (dogs only), diarrhea, and ataxia. For more information, see full prescribing information.

Canine diabetes care as you know it, with fewer injections.

You're used to managing canine diabetes. But for your clients, managing life around twice-daily insulin injections is no walk in the park. PROZINC insulin can make life easier for them. Its unique formulation provides a measured, steady and extended release of insulin, delivering an extended duration of action compared to other insulin formulations.^{1,2}

Most dogs can stabilize on ONCE-daily PROZINC insulin injections.³
That's life-changing for owners of diabetic dogs.

Tips for success



Don't always expect hyperglycemia prior to insulin administration

PROZINC insulin gives a steady and extended release of insulin, which means you won't necessarily see the blood glucose (BG) peak above the normal range before an injection.

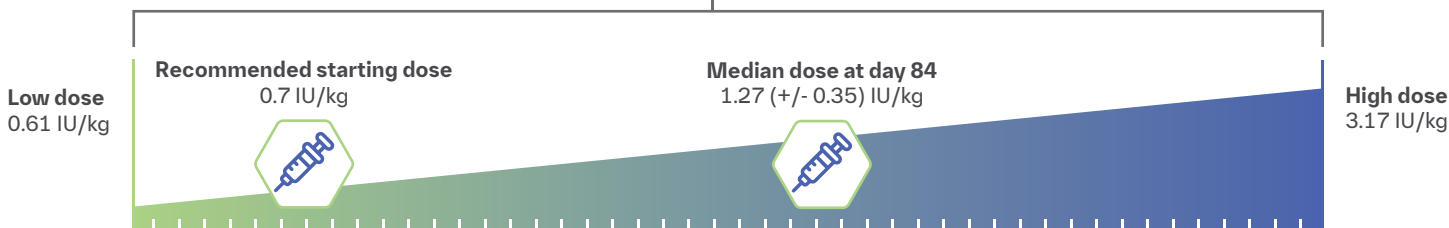
You may see a BG in the normal range at the time of injection. Always feed when dosing.



Be prepared to titrate the insulin dose up

The per label, recommended **starting dose** for PROZINC insulin is **0.5 – 1.0 IU** insulin per kg body weight once daily. Study data show that the **final regulating dose** of dogs on once-daily PROZINC insulin ranges from 0.6 – 3.1 IU/kg. Consider **starting** PROZINC insulin at a dose in the mid-range, 0.7 IU/kg once daily, recognizing that most dogs will require up-titration to stabilize. For comparison, per label, when twice-daily treatment with lente insulin is initiated, the total daily **starting dose** is 0.75 IU/kg insulin.

Range of once-daily dose for stabilized dogs at day 84 (n=96)³

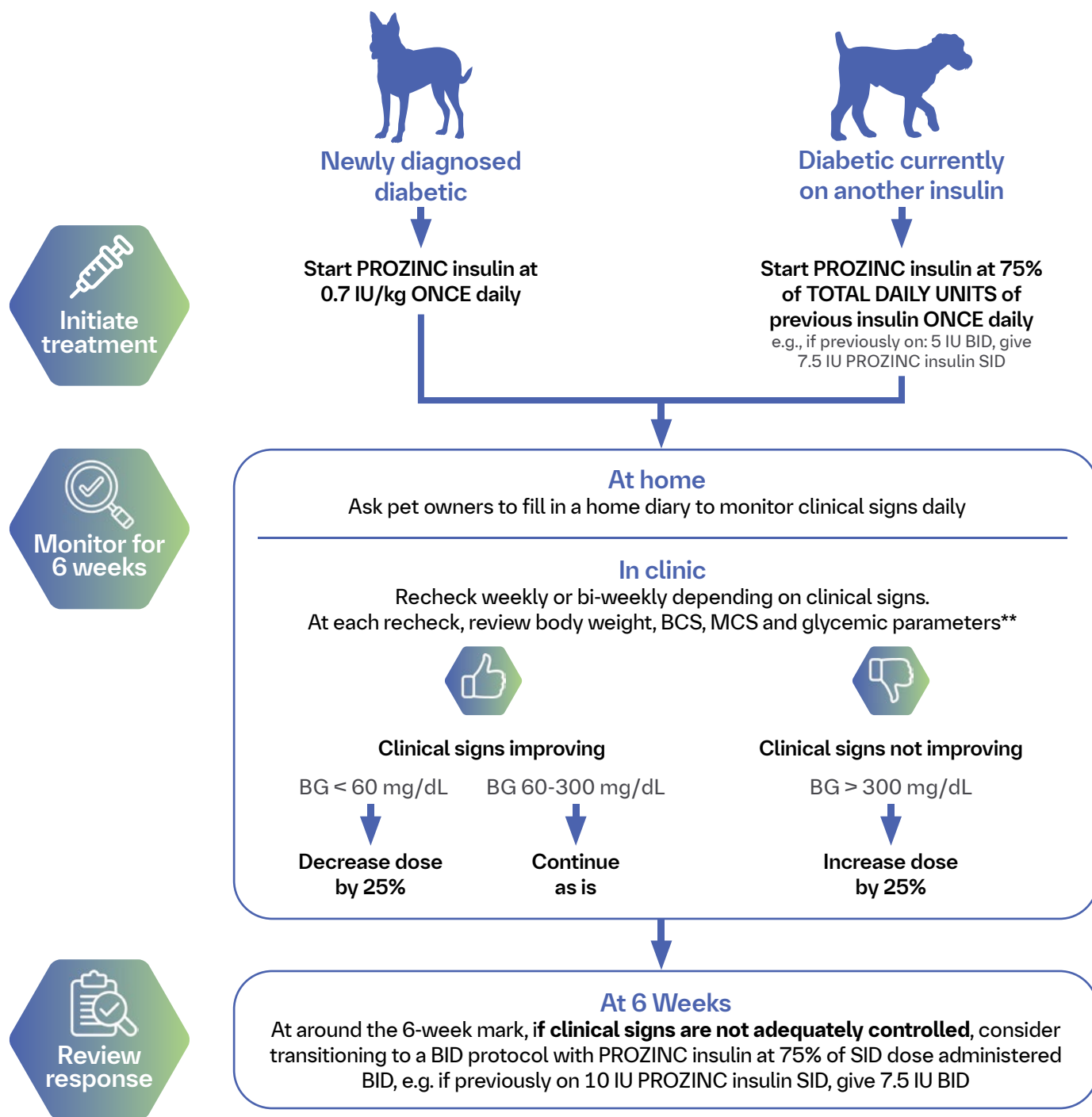


Give it about 6 weeks

It takes time for diabetic dogs to achieve glycemic stabilization. Provided the dog is clinically stable, give the once-daily treatment for 6 weeks before deciding once-daily dosing isn't appropriate for the patient. **For your clients, it's worth the wait.**

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION: PROZINC[®] (protamine zinc recombinant human insulin) is for use in dogs and cats only. Keep out of the reach of children. Animals presenting with severe ketoacidosis, anorexia, lethargy, and/or vomiting should be stabilized with short-acting insulin and appropriate supportive therapy until their condition is stabilized. As with all insulin products, careful patient monitoring for hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia is essential to attain and maintain adequate glycemic control and to prevent associated complications. Overdose can result in profound hypoglycemia and death. The most common adverse reactions were

Just 6 weeks to an easier routine*



*Clinical response will vary by patient. Not all patients will regulate on once-daily injections by 6 weeks.

**Blood glucose readings should be interpreted within the context of clinical signs.



Feeding is easy, too.

Feed with the morning PROZINC insulin injection and then at your pleasure. Once-daily, twice-daily or *ad libitum* all work with this protocol.

lethargy, anorexia, hypoglycemia, vomiting, seizures, shaking (dogs only), diarrhea, and ataxia. Many of the adverse reactions, such as lethargy, seizures, shaking (dogs only), and ataxia, are associated with hypoglycemia. Glucocorticoid and progestogen use should be avoided. The safety and effectiveness of PROZINC in puppies, kittens, or breeding, pregnant, and lactating animals has not been evaluated. PROZINC is contraindicated during episodes of hypoglycemia and in animals sensitive to protamine zinc recombinant human insulin or any other ingredients in PROZINC. For more information, please see full prescribing information.

ProZinc®

(protamine zinc recombinant human insulin)



For technical advice, consult your
Boehringer Ingelheim Professional Service Veterinarian.

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References: 1. Maggiore AD, Nelson RW, Dennis J, et al. Efficacy of protamine zinc recombinant human insulin for controlling hyperglycemia in dogs with diabetes mellitus. *J Vet Intern Med.* 2012;26(1):109-115. 2. PROZINC® (protamine zinc recombinant human insulin) [Freedom of Information; NADA 141-297 Supplemental Approval]. Duluth, GA: Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health USA Inc.; 2019. 3. Ward CR, Christiansen K, Li J, Bryson WL, Jerrentrup KA, Kroh C. Field efficacy and safety of protamine zinc recombinant human insulin in 276 dogs with diabetes mellitus. *Domest Anim Endocrinol.* 2021;75:106575. 4. Data on file at Boehringer Ingelheim.



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Package Insert for Dogs

ProZinc®

(protamine zinc recombinant human insulin)

40 IU/mL

Caution: Federal law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.

Description: PROZINC® is a sterile aqueous protamine zinc suspension of recombinant human insulin.

Each mL contains:	
recombinant human insulin	40 International Units (IU)
protamine sulfate	0.466 mg
zinc oxide	0.088 mg
glycerin	16.00 mg
dibasic sodium phosphate, heptahydrate	3.78 mg
phenol (added as preservative)	2.50 mg
hydrochloric acid	1.63 mg
water for injection (maximum)	1005 mg
pH is adjusted with hydrochloric acid and/or sodium hydroxide.	

Indication: PROZINC (protamine zinc recombinant human insulin) is indicated for the reduction of hyperglycemia and hyperglycemia-associated clinical signs in dogs with diabetes mellitus.

Dosage and Administration: USE OF A SYRINGE OTHER THAN A U-40 SYRINGE WILL RESULT IN INCORRECT DOSING.

FOR SUBCUTANEOUS INJECTION ONLY.

DO NOT SHAKE OR AGITATE THE VIAL.

PROZINC should be mixed by gently rolling the vial prior to withdrawing each dose from the vial. Once mixed, PROZINC suspension has a white, cloudy appearance. Clumps or visible white particles can form in insulin suspensions; do not use the product if clumps or visible white particles persist after gently rolling the vial.

Using a U-40 insulin syringe, the injection should be administered subcutaneously on the back of the neck or on the side of the dog.

Always provide the Client Information Sheet with each prescription.

Starting dose: The recommended starting dose for PROZINC is 0.2-0.5 IU insulin/pound of body weight (0.5-1.0 IU/kg) **once daily**. The recommended starting dose for naïve dogs is the lower end of the dose range. The recommended starting dose for dogs with poorly controlled diabetes mellitus and transitioning from another insulin product is the mid to higher end of the dose range based on the veterinarian's experience with the dog's medical history and previous insulin dose. When transitioning from another insulin, the dog's blood glucose and general condition should be closely monitored. **When transitioning from another insulin, PROZINC should be started once daily, regardless of the frequency of prior insulin use.**

The dose should be given concurrently with or right after a meal. The veterinarian should re-evaluate the dog at appropriate intervals and adjust the dose and frequency based on both clinical signs and laboratory test results (the blood glucose curve values and shape, nadir, and fructosamine) until adequate glycemic control has been attained. In the effectiveness field study, glycemic control was considered adequate if the glucose nadir from a 9-hour blood glucose curve was between 80 and 125 mg/dL, the maximum blood glucose was ≤ 300 mg/dL, and clinical signs of hyperglycemia such as polyuria, polydipsia, or weight loss were improved.

Changing to twice daily dosing: Twice daily dosing should be considered if the duration of insulin action is determined to be inadequate with once daily dosing. Use caution when adjusting from once daily to twice daily dosing because PROZINC may have prolonged duration of action in some dogs (see Clinical Pharmacology). The veterinarian should closely monitor the duration of action using blood glucose curves to avoid the increased risk of hypoglycemia. If twice daily dosing is initiated, the two doses should each be approximately 25% less than the once daily dose required to attain an acceptable glucose nadir. For example, if a dog receiving 10 units of PROZINC once daily has an acceptable nadir but inadequate duration of activity, the dose should be changed to 7 units twice daily (round down to the nearest whole unit).

Further adjustments in the dosage may be necessary with changes in the dog's diet, body weight, or concomitant medication, or if the dog develops concurrent infection, inflammation, neoplasia, or an additional endocrine or other medical disorder.

Contraindications: PROZINC is contraindicated in dogs sensitive to protamine zinc recombinant human insulin or any other ingredients in PROZINC. PROZINC is contraindicated during episodes of hypoglycemia.

Warnings:

User Safety: For use in dogs and cats. Keep out of the reach of children. Avoid contact with eyes. In case of contact, immediately flush eyes with running water for at least 15 minutes. Accidental injection may cause hypoglycemia. In case of accidental injection, seek medical attention immediately. Exposure to product may induce a local or systemic allergic reaction in sensitized individuals.

Animal Safety: Owners should be advised to observe for signs of hypoglycemia (see Client Information Sheet). Use of this product, even at established doses, has been associated with hypoglycemia. A dog with signs of hypoglycemia should be treated immediately. Glucose should be given orally or intravenously as dictated by clinical signs. Insulin should be temporarily withheld and, if indicated, the dosage adjusted.

Any change in insulin should be made cautiously and only under a veterinarian's supervision. Changes in insulin strength, manufacturer, type, species (human, animal) or method of manufacture (rDNA versus animal-source insulin) may result in the need for a change in dosage.

Appropriate diagnostic tests should be performed to rule out other endocrinopathies in diabetic dogs that are difficult to regulate.

Precautions: Dogs presenting with severe ketoacidosis, anorexia, lethargy, and/or vomiting should be stabilized with short-acting insulin and appropriate supportive therapy until their condition is stabilized. As with all insulin products, careful patient monitoring for hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia is essential to attain and maintain adequate glycemic control and to prevent associated complications. Overdose can result in profound hypoglycemia and death.

Glucocorticoids, progestogens, and certain endocrinopathies can have an antagonistic effect on insulin activity. Glucocorticoid and progestogen use should be avoided.

The safety and effectiveness of PROZINC in breeding, pregnant, and lactating dogs has not been evaluated.

The safety and effectiveness of PROZINC in puppies has not been evaluated.

Adverse Reactions: In a 182-day field study, 276 dogs received PROZINC. The most common adverse reactions were lethargy, anorexia, hypoglycemia, vomiting, seizures, shaking, diarrhea, and ataxia.

Table 1 summarizes the adverse reactions reported in the study. Clinical signs of hypoglycemia varied and included seizure, collapse, ataxia, staggering, trembling, twitching, shaking, disorientation, lethargy, weakness, and vocalization. In Table 1, the individual clinical signs that were observed during the episodes of hypoglycemia are captured as separate adverse reactions and a single dog may have experienced more than one clinical sign of hypoglycemia.

Table 1. Adverse reactions seen in the safety population (276 dogs)	
Adverse Reaction	Number and Percentage
Lethargy (lethargy, depression, listless, and tiredness)	45 (16.3%)
Anorexia (anorexia, decreased appetite, inappetence, and not eating)	28 (10.1%)
Hypoglycemia with clinical signs	24 (8.9%)
Vomiting	21 (7.6%)
Seizures	16 (5.8%)
Shaking/trembling/twitching	13 (4.7%)
Ataxia (ataxia, balance problem, stumbling gait)	11 (4.0%)
Diarrhea (includes bloody diarrhea)	9 (3.3%)
Disorientation/confusion	9 (3.3%)
Weakness	8 (2.9%)
Restlessness/anxiety/agitation	6 (2.2%)
Cataract	6 (2.2%)
Panting (panting and tachypnea)	6 (2.2%)
Hematuria	4 (1.5%)

Clinical pathology: The only change seen in complete blood count, serum chemistry, and urinalysis results was an elevation in mean cholesterol at Day 182 (432.6 mg/dL, normal range 131-345 mg/dL) compared to Day -1 (333.7 mg/dL.)

Injection site reactions: Seven dogs had injection site reactions, including observations of thickened skin, swelling, bumps at the injection site, and redness. All injection site reactions resolved without cessation of PROZINC therapy. Reaction to the injection, including vocalization, was observed in four dogs.

Hypoglycemia: There were 80 hypoglycemic episodes recorded during the study with some dogs experiencing more than one episode; 37 episodes were associated with clinical signs in 24 dogs, 40 episodes were without clinical signs in 27 dogs, and 3 were with unknown signs in 2 dogs. Clinical signs of hypoglycemia varied and included seizure, collapse, ataxia, staggering, trembling, twitching, shaking, disorientation, lethargy, weakness, and vocalization. Some dogs required hospitalization and intravenous dextrose while most recovered after receiving oral supplementation with a meal and/or oral glucose such as syrup. Two dogs were euthanized when the hypoglycemia did not resolve with supportive care. Hypoglycemia without clinical signs was defined as two consecutive blood glucose curve values < 60 mg/dL unaccompanied by clinical signs.

Diabetic ketoacidosis and pancreatitis: Eleven dogs were diagnosed with diabetic ketoacidosis. Four of these 11 dogs died or were euthanized, one after one dose of PROZINC. Twenty-one dogs were diagnosed with pancreatitis. Seven of these 21 dogs died or were euthanized due to complications of pancreatitis. Four dogs had concurrent diabetic ketoacidosis and pancreatitis, three of which died or were euthanized. Not all the deaths were considered related to PROZINC.

Deaths: Thirty-six (36) dogs died or were euthanized, six of which were possibly related to PROZINC. One dog died from recurrent episodes of pancreatitis, and one died after developing severe vomiting and diarrhea followed by a seizure. Four dogs were euthanized: one developed severe pancreatitis and azotemia, one had recurrent episodes of pancreatitis and diabetic ketoacidosis, and two for lack of effectiveness.

To report suspected adverse drug events, for technical assistance or to obtain a copy of the Safety Data Sheet (SDS), contact Boehringer Ingelheim at 1-888-637-4251.

For additional information about adverse drug experience reporting for animal drugs, contact FDA at 1-888-FDA-VETS or online at <http://www.fda.gov/reportanimalae>.

Clinical Pharmacology: PROZINC was administered subcutaneously to 10 healthy Beagles using an incomplete crossover design at doses of 0.5 IU/kg (5 dogs), 0.8 IU/kg at a single site (10 dogs), or 0.8 IU/kg at three separate sites (6 dogs). Insulin and glucose concentrations were measured over 24 hours. The shapes of insulin and glucose curves were variable among dogs; and the relationship between insulin dose, concentration, and glucose-lowering effect was nonlinear (Table 2).

Table 2. Pharmacodynamics of three dosing groups			
Dose group	Onset of Action	Time to nadir	Duration of Action
0.5 IU/kg at a single site	1 to 14 hours	6 to 16 hours	16 to >24 hours
0.8 IU/kg at a single site	0.5 to 10 hours	5 to >24 hours	16 to >24 hours
0.8 IU/kg divided at three sites	1 to 10 hours	8 to 20 hours	18 to >24 hours

Information for Dog Owners: Please refer to the Client Information Sheet for Dogs for more information about PROZINC. PROZINC, like other insulin products, is not free from adverse reactions. Owners should be advised of the potential for adverse reactions and be informed of the associated clinical signs. Potential adverse reactions include hypoglycemia, insulin antagonism/resistance, rapid insulin metabolism, insulin-induced hyperglycemia (Somogyi Effect), and local or systemic reactions. The most common adverse reaction observed is hypoglycemia. Signs may include weakness, depression, behavioral changes, muscle twitching, and anxiety. In severe cases of hypoglycemia, seizures and coma can occur. Hypoglycemia can be fatal if an affected dog does not receive prompt treatment. Appropriate veterinary monitoring of blood glucose, adjustment of insulin dose and regimen as needed, and stabilization of diet and activity help minimize the risk of hypoglycemic episodes. The attending veterinarian should evaluate other adverse reactions on a case-by-case basis to determine if an adjustment in therapy is appropriate, or if alternative therapy should be considered.

Effectiveness: A total of 276 client-owned dogs were enrolled in an 84-day field study followed by a 98-day extended-use phase with 276 dogs receiving PROZINC. The dogs included various purebred and mixed breed dogs ranging in age from 2 to 16 years and in weight from 3.3 to 123 pounds. There were 128 neutered males, 8 intact males, 134 spayed females and 6 intact females. Two hundred twenty-four dogs (224) were included in the effectiveness analysis. Dogs were started on PROZINC at a dose of 0.2-0.5 IU/lb (0.5-1.0 IU/kg) once daily. Dogs were evaluated at 7, 14, 21, 28, 42, 63 and 84 days after initiation of therapy. The dose was adjusted based on clinical signs and results of 9-hour blood glucose curves on Days 7, 14, 21, 28, 42, 63 and 84.

Effectiveness was based on successful control of diabetes which was defined as improvement in at least one laboratory variable (blood glucose curve mean, blood glucose curve nadir, or fructosamine) and at least one clinical sign (polyuria, polydipsia, or weight loss). Based on this definition, 162 of 224 cases (72%) were considered successful.

How Supplied: PROZINC is supplied as a sterile injectable suspension in 10 mL and 20 mL multi-dose vials. Each mL of PROZINC contains 40 IU recombinant human insulin.

Storage Conditions: Store in an upright position under refrigeration at 36-46°F (2-8°C). Do not freeze. Protect from light. **Use the 10 mL vial within 60 days of first puncture. Use the 20 mL vial within 80 days of first puncture.**

Approved by FDA under NADA # 141-297

Marketed by:
Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health USA Inc.
Duluth, GA 30096

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