



DOGS

FEAR FREE MEDS

TRAZODONE & GABAPENTIN

Why should I consider Fear Free medication for my dog?

Every effort is made to keep each encounter with all pets a positive and fun experience! However, some pets may feel stressed and anxious despite our best efforts. **Trazodone** and **gabapentin** are common Fear Free medications dispensed to dogs for their sedative and calming effects. It makes it easier for us to provide high quality medical care.

How and when do I give this medication?

Your dog may be prescribed either trazodone, gabapentin, or both. These are administered by mouth. We usually recommend giving the medication ~1.5 to 2 hours prior to their next vet visit. Some dogs may benefit from getting additional doses the night before - please check the instructions on the label.

What should I expect after giving Fear Free medication?

Some dogs may seem like they aren't sedated at all, just less stressed than they would be without the medication! Other dogs may seem quiet and sedate, and sometimes even a little bit wobbly! **That's okay - these are expected effects!** Dose adjustments are often required over time.

What are the possible side effects?

Gabapentin: Generally well tolerated, but **side effects can include sedation, wobbly gait, and salivation.**

Trazodone: Generally well tolerated, but **side effects can include sedation, wobbly gait, and upset stomach.** Unexpected excitement is rare, but can occur!