



Although the Percorten insert (<http://www.percorten.novartis.us/pdf/PercortenV-product-info.pdf>) states that it should be injected intramuscularly, the following study provides evidence for the safety of subcutaneous (sub-q) administration. This makes it easier for owners to learn to administer Percorten by themselves at home, after being trained by their veterinary staff. Please provide this information to your veterinarian & review all medical decisions with him or her.

## **Subcutaneous administration of desoxycorticosterone pivalate for the treatment of canine hypoadrenocorticism**

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/7773761>

**Abstract:** “Twelve dogs with hypoadrenocorticism were treated with subcutaneous desoxycorticosterone pivalate (DOCP). Eight of these dogs were recently diagnosed and had not yet been treated. Four dogs previously had been diagnosed and treated (three with intramuscular DOCP, one with oral fludrocortisone acetate). History, physical examination, serum electrolytes, and blood urea nitrogen (BUN) were evaluated. Desoxycorticosterone pivalate (2.2 mg/kg body weight) was administered every 25 days. On day 0, recently diagnosed dogs had a median serum sodium concentration of 131.5 mEq/L, median serum potassium concentration of 6.6 mEq/L, and median BUN of 41.5 mg/dl. All subsequent median serum electrolyte and BUN concentrations were normal. All previously treated dogs had normal blood values which were maintained throughout the study.”

[J Am Anim Hosp Assoc.](#) 1995 Mar-Apr;31(2):151-5.

**Note:** We do know of one dog (out of hundreds) who did not do well with subcutaneous administration of Percorten, so please be sure to monitor your dog closely with the supervision of your veterinarian.

After being taught by your veterinarian, you can search the Internet for tutorials on how to give subcutaneous shots. Here is a link for one:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k4A6bDiYRc>

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We are not veterinarians. This content is provided solely for informational purposes & for discussion with your pet's veterinarian. All treatment decisions should be made in respectful partnership with a trusted veterinarian.

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