The veterinary composition of the invention may be manufactured by any suitable method. A person skilled in the art may readily determine a suitable manufacturing protocol. In general, a representative method for manufacture of, for example a paste dosage form, includes mixing the antacid with a carrier, adding with mixing a thickening agent then adding with mixing the enteric coated proton pump inhibitor.

Thus, in another aspect, the present invention provides a veterinary composition for oral administration, said veterinary composition including an antacid including magnesium oxide, a thickening agent, a carrier and a therapeutically effective amount of a proton pump inhibitor including omeprazole, wherein the proton pump inhibitor is provided in an enteric coated form, and the enteric coated form, antacid and thickening agent are suspended or dissolved in the carrier.

In preferred embodiments, the antacid, thickening agent, carrier, proton pump inhibitor, enteric coated form and amounts thereof in the veterinary composition may be as hereinbefore described. Also in preferred embodiments, when a single dose of the veterinary composition of the present invention is administered to an animal population, preferably a mean maximum plasma concentration of proton pump inhibitor of greater than about 625 µg/L is reached, as hereinbefore described. Independently, preferably a mean area under the curve of plasma concentration of proton pump inhibitor over time of greater than about 1480 µg/L.hr is also reached, as hereinbefore described.

In another aspect, the present invention provides a use of a veterinary composition as described herein in the manufacture of a medicament for the prevention or treatment of a gastric ulcer condition in an animal, wherein the medicament is to be orally administered to said animal.

The present invention will now be more fully described with reference to the accompanying Examples. It should be understood, however, that the description following is illustrative only and should not be taken in any way as a restriction on the generality of the invention described above.

**Brief Description of the Figures**

Figure 1 is a plot of mean omeprazole plasma concentration as a function of time for treatments using a test composition of the present invention (IVP) and a registered reference product (RVP) in a two-period cross-over design study testing efficacy in horses.

35. A veterinary composition according to claim 34, wherein the mean maximum plasma concentration is between about 625 µg/L and about 1,000 µg/L.

36. A veterinary composition according to any one of claims 32 to 35, wherein a mean area under the curve of plasma concentration of proton pump inhibitor over time of greater than about 1480 µg/L.hr is reached in an animal population after administration to each animal a single dose of the veterinary composition.

37. A veterinary composition according to claim 36, wherein the mean area under the curve is between about 1480 µg/L.hr and 2100 µg/L.hr.

38. A veterinary composition according to any one of claims 34 or 37, wherein the single dose of the veterinary composition is in an amount that delivers no more than about 5 mg proton pump inhibitor per kg of body weight of the animal.

39. Use of a veterinary composition according to any one of claims 1 to 38 in the manufacture of a medicament for the prevention or treatment of a gastric ulcer condition in an animal, wherein the medicament is to be orally administered to said animal.

40. The use according to claim 39, wherein the animal is a species selected from the group consisting of equine, porcine, bovine and canine.

41. The use according to claim 40, wherein the animal is a horse.

42. The use according to any one of claims 39 to 41, wherein the veterinary composition is to be administered once or twice daily for a period of at least about 2 weeks.