

NON-STEROIDAL ANTI-INFLAMMATORY MEDICINES (NSAIDs)



celecoxib, diclofenac, etoricoxib, ibuprofen, indomethacin, ketoprofen, mefenamic acid, meloxicam, naproxen, piroxicam, sulindac, tenoxicam, tiaprofenic acid

Other names:

Aclin®	Brufen®	Fenpaed®	Noflam®	Tilcotil®
ACT-3®	Cataflam®	Flameril®	Nurofen®	Voltaren®
Apo-Diclo EC®	Celebrex®	Flameril Retard®	OruvailSR®	
Apo-Diclo SR®	Clinoril®	I-profen®	Piram-D®	
Apo-Ibuprofen®	Daclin®	Melorex®	Ponstan®	
Arrow Meloxicam®	Diclax SR®	Mobic®	Rheumacin®	
Arrowcare Ibuprofen®	Diclofenac Sandoz®	Naxen®	Sonaflam®	
Arthrexin®	Diclohexal®	Naprogesic®	Surgam®	
Brufen SR®	Ethics Ibuprofen®	Naproxyn SR®	Synflex®	

Important note: The following information is intended to add to, not replace, the knowledge and judgment of your doctor, pharmacist or other health care professional.

Why you are taking this medicine

NSAIDs work by blocking a substance called prostaglandin. These medicines reduce inflammation (anti-inflammatory effect), decrease pain (analgesic) and reduce fever (antipyretic effect).

NSAIDs can be used for a number of conditions, such as:

- rheumatoid arthritis
- gout
- menstrual cramps (period pain)
- osteoarthritis
- bone pain (palliative care)
- sprains

When to take this medicine

NSAIDs are usually taken with food, milk, antacids (e.g. Mylanta) or a proton pump inhibitors (e.g. omeprazole) to prevent the stomach being upset.

If you miss a dose

Take as soon as possible except when it is close to the time for your next dose. If it is almost time for next dose, skip the missed dose and return to your regular dosing schedule. You should not take two doses at the same time.

Pregnancy

Discuss with your doctor, midwife or pharmacist if you are pregnant before taking any NSAIDs.

Side Effects

Unfortunately as well as having good effects, most medicines have some effects on your body that are unwanted. These are called *side effects*.

Call your doctor **immediately** if you have any of these side effects:

- rapid swelling of the face or around the eyes
- severe stomach pain
- skin rash, severe itching or hives
- wheezing or difficulty breathing
- reduced amount of urine
- black, tarry (coffee ground) or bloody stools
- fever or sore throat
- swelling of feet or legs

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you have these side effects:

- dizziness
- headache
- constipation or diarrhoea
- ringing in the ears
- nausea, stomach cramps or mild heartburn
- blurred vision

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you notice any other side effect(s) from your medicine that are not mentioned here.

Other Medication

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking any other medicine including herbal or complementary products and medicines you can buy without a prescription.

Before surgery of any kind tell your doctor or dentist that you are taking this medicine.

Beware that these medicines have the potential to cause stomach ulcers and bleeding, especially when taken with other medicines such as aspirin and warfarin (medication to prevent clots).

They can also interact with medication taken for hypertension (high blood pressure; e.g. ACE inhibitors) or medication for that controls heart rate e.g. digoxin.

Patients taking lithium should not take NSAIDs medicines because they can increase the amount of lithium in the body and increase side effects and toxic effects of lithium.

Storage

Keep all medicines out of reach of children.

Read this leaflet and discuss any questions you have about your medicines with your doctor or pharmacist.