Ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin)

Ibuprofen is considered a Nonsteroidal Antiinflammatory Drug (NSAID) that functions by inhibiting cyclooxygenase (COX). COX is responsible for the production of pain and inflammation. Therefore, ibuprofen is effective in reducing inflammation, fever, and pain. Ibuprofen is associated with side effects which include GI bleeding, nephrotoxicity, and rash in children. Ibuprofen should be avoided in children less than 6 months of age and should not be taken with alcohol.



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Mechanisms

NSAID
N-sad
Ibuprofen is considered a Nonsteroidal Antiinflammatory Drug and reduces inflammation, pain and fever. NSAIDs are effective in the management of mild or moderate pain.

COX Inhibitor
Cocks with Inhibiting-chains
Ibuprofen functions by inhibiting cyclooxygenase (COX), which is responsible for the production of pain and inflammation. By inhibiting COX, ibuprofen reduces inflammation and pain.

Indications

General Pain
General Pain
Ibuprofen is recommended for the relief of mild to moderate pain due to the inhibition of cyclooxygenase and its antiinflammatory properties.

Fever
Fever-beaver
This drug is also effective in reducing a fever.

Inflammatory Conditions
Flames
NSAIDs are effective in reducing inflammation and are therefore indicated for numerous inflammatory conditions such as rheumatoid arthritis, cystic fibrosis, and osteoarthritis.

Side Effects

GI Ulcers
GI Ulcer-volcano
Ibuprofen is associated with the risk of developing GI ulcers due to its COX inhibitor properties. This property can inhibit platelet aggregation and increase the risk of bleeding.

Nephrotoxicity
Kidney with Toxic-green-glow
Ibuprofen is metabolized in the kidneys and therefore may become nephrotoxic in high doses meaning it can be damaging to the kidneys.

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Rash

Rash

Ibuprofen is not recommended in children less than 6 months of age because young children may develop a rash related to Stevens Johnsons syndrome.

Considerations

Avoid with Alcohol

Avoid-sign and Alcoholic

Alcohol use should be avoided with ibuprofen because it may increase the risk of GI irritation and bleeding. Ibuprofen decreases platelet aggregation, which is further produced with alcohol use.

Risk of Thrombotic Event

Up-arrow Risk Trombone

Ibuprofen carries a black box notice warning of potential thrombotic events. It's non-selective inhibition of the COX-1, COX-2 isoenzymes predisposes patients to these complications.

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