



# Anti- Inflammatory Painkillers

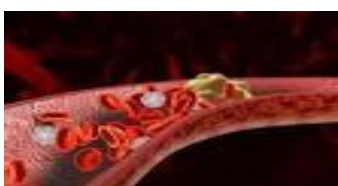
This is an easy way to read this word...

**an-ti in-flamm-a-tor-y pain-kill-ers**

	<p><b>What is this leaflet for?</b></p> <p>This leaflet is to help you understand more about your medicine</p> <p>Your medicine could look different to the photographs on this leaflet</p>																				
	<p><b>What is the medicine called?</b></p> <p>There are a lot of anti-inflammatory painkillers</p> <p>You may see 1 of these names on your medicine</p> <table data-bbox="582 1310 1396 1960"> <tr> <td>Ibuprofen</td> <td><b>i-bu-pro-fen</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aspirin</td> <td><b>asp-i-rin</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Diclofenac</td> <td><b>di-clo-fen-ac</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Naproxen</td> <td><b>na-prox-en</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mefanamic acid</td> <td><b>me-fan-a-mic a-cid</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aceclofenac</td> <td><b>a-ce-clo-fen-ac</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Celecoxib</td> <td><b>ce-le-cox-ib</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dexibuprofen</td> <td><b>dex-i-bu-pro-fen</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dexketoprofen</td> <td><b>dex-ke-to-pro-fen</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Etoricoxib</td> <td><b>e-tor-i-cox-ib</b></td> </tr> </table>	Ibuprofen	<b>i-bu-pro-fen</b>	Aspirin	<b>asp-i-rin</b>	Diclofenac	<b>di-clo-fen-ac</b>	Naproxen	<b>na-prox-en</b>	Mefanamic acid	<b>me-fan-a-mic a-cid</b>	Aceclofenac	<b>a-ce-clo-fen-ac</b>	Celecoxib	<b>ce-le-cox-ib</b>	Dexibuprofen	<b>dex-i-bu-pro-fen</b>	Dexketoprofen	<b>dex-ke-to-pro-fen</b>	Etoricoxib	<b>e-tor-i-cox-ib</b>
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Indometacin	<b>in-do-me-ta-cin</b>
Ketoprofen	<b>ke-to-pro-fen</b>
Piroxicam	<b>pir-ox-i-cam</b>
Meloxicam	<b>me-lox-i-cam</b>
Indometacin	<b>ind-o-me-ta-cin</b>
Etodolac	<b>e-t-o-do-lac</b>
Fenbufen	<b>fen-bu-fen</b>
Fenoprofen	<b>fen-o-pro-fen</b>
Flurbiprofen	<b>flur-bi-pro-fen</b>
Tenoxicam	<b>ten-ox-i-cam</b>
Sulindac	<b>su-lin-dac</b>
Tiaprofenic acid	<b>ti-a-pro-fen-ic a-cid</b>



**What are anti-inflammatory painkillers for?**

They are used to treat pain in the joints, muscles, headaches, migraine, pain after an operation, period pain (in women)

They are also used to reduce inflammation and stiffness

Ibuprofen and aspirin are also used to bring down a high temperature

Aspirin is also used to prevent a 'blood clot'

A blood clot is when your blood forms and blocks your vein or artery, stopping the

flow of blood

Your painkillers are for: \_\_\_\_\_



### What will my painkillers do?

They may give pain relief after a single dose, but you should continue to take them if the pain stays or come back.

It may take a few days for painkillers to have their full effect

You should see the full effect of reduced inflammation and stiffness within 1-3 weeks



### What are the effects of anti-inflammatory painkillers?

Side effects are effects medicine can have on your body that are not wanted

Not everyone taking a medicine will get side effects

Many side effects will go away with time

Many side effects are rare

**You might want to talk to your doctor if you have any side effects**



Some common side effects of these medicines are:

- Headache
- Feeling dizzy
- Feeling sick
- Tiredness (feeling sleepy)
- Poor sleep
- Noises in the ear
- Diarrhoea
- Rashes



### **Some side effects are more serious**

You should tell someone straight away if any of the following happens as you may be having an **'allergic reaction'** :

- blood in your stools/black stools
- stomach pains
- vomiting blood
- if you have asthma and your chest feels tight or you find it hard to breath whilst taking this medicine

Stop taking the medicine immediately and seek medical help with you doctor or casualty department



## How and when do I take anti-inflammatory painkillers

The label on your medicine packet should tell you when to take your medicine

The label should tell you how much medicine to take

You should follow the instructions carefully

You should swallow your tablet with water

Or



Measure and swallow your liquid



If you forget to take your medicine, tell someone straight away



You should ask your pharmacist if you can crush your medicine or if it can be mixed with a drink



You should speak to your doctor if you are feeling better and ask if you should stop taking this medicine



## What do I need to know about anti-inflammatory painkillers?

Read or have someone help you the full leaflet that came with the medicine to check if you have any of the conditions where side effects may be increased

Some medicines do not work well together

You should tell your doctor about any other medicine you are taking



## Where can I get more information?

This leaflet does not tell you everything about each antibiotic

If you want more information about a certain antibiotic you can:

- ask your pharmacist, doctor or nurse
- ask your carer to get more information for you
- phone NHS on **111**
- phone the medicine info helpline on **020 3228 2999**

Acknowledgements for the information in this leaflet goes to...

- general advice about anti-inflammatory painkillers side effects from the patient website ([www.patient.co.uk](http://www.patient.co.uk))
- template and layout from the University of Birmingham easy read medication leaflets ([www.ld-medication.bham.ac.uk](http://www.ld-medication.bham.ac.uk))
- the British national formulary ([www.bnf.org](http://www.bnf.org))
- Photosymbols: the easy read photo library
- This leaflet was discussed and agreed with the Tameside Learning Disability Shadow Board.