

**ALDERFER & TRAVIS CARDIOLOGY, PC**  
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NONSTEROIDAL ANTI-INFLAMMATORY DRUGS - ORAL

OTHER NAMES: Advil, Nuprin, Ibuprofen, others

USES: Also known as NSAIDs, this medication relieves pain and reduces inflammation. It is used to treat headaches, muscle aches, dental pain, menstrual cramps and athletic injuries. It is commonly used to treat pain, swelling and stiffness associated with arthritis. This medication can also reduce fever.

HOW TO TAKE THIS MEDICATION: If stomach upset occurs while taking this medication, take it with food, milk or an antacid. This medication is most effective in relieving menstrual pain if taken at the earliest sign of pain.

SIDE EFFECTS: Stomach upset is the most common side effect. If this persists or becomes severe, notify your doctor.

Inform your doctor if you develop persistent stomach pain, presence of black or bloody stools, skin rash, itching, edema (swelling of the feet or hands), change in urine color or vision changes while taking this medication.

May cause dizziness, drowsiness or blurred vision. Avoid activities requiring alertness if this occurs. May rarely cause ringing in the ears and or loss of hearing.

Infrequently, this medication may increase the skin's sensitivity to sunlight. If this happens to you, avoid prolonged sun exposure, wear protective clothing and use a sunscreen. Avoid sunlamps.

PRECAUTIONS: Tell your doctor your medical history especially of any liver or kidney disease, blood disorders, ulcers, heart disease, alcohol use, high blood pressure, eye disease or allergies, especially drug allergies.

Use caution when performing tasks requiring alertness. Limit alcohol intake as it may intensify the drowsiness effect of this medication and make your stomach or intestines more likely to bleed.

Do not take aspirin without consulting your doctor. Check the ingredients of any nonprescription medication you may be taking since many cough and cold formulas contain aspirin.

Caution is advised when this drug is used in the elderly.

This medication should be used during pregnancy only if clearly needed. Discuss the risks and benefits with your doctor. Use of this drug during the last 6 months of pregnancy is not

recommended.

This drug is excreted into breast milk. Consult your doctor before breast-feeding.

**DRUG INTERACTIONS:** Inform your doctor about all the drugs you use especially if you take "blood thinners" warfarin (Coumadin), other arthritis medication (including aspirin or methotrexate), water pills, lithium, or ulcer medication as your dose may need to be adjusted.

**NOTES:** In arthritis, it may take up to two weeks before the full effects of this medication are noted. For best results this should be taken regularly, as directed by your doctor.

**MISSED DOSE:** If you miss a dose, take as soon as remembered; do not take if it is almost time for the next dose, instead, skip the missed dose and resume your usual dosing schedule. Do not "double-up" the dose to catch up.

**STORAGE:** Store at room temperature away from moisture and sunlight. Do not store in the bathroom.