

Nuprafen®

Tablet

Description

Nuprafen contains Naproxen, a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent, is a preparation of (+)-6-Methoxy- α -methyl-2-naphthalene Acetic acid. It has analgesic, anti-inflammatory and antipyretic properties. It is an inhibitor of prostaglandin synthetase.

Indications

Nuprafen is indicated in mild to moderate pain such as dysmenorrhoea, migraine and for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis (degenerative arthritis), ankylosing spondylitis, juvenile rheumatoid arthritis, acute gout, and acute musculoskeletal disorders.

Dosage and Administration

Adults : For rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis and ankylosing spondylitis, the usual dose is 500 mg to 1 g per day taken in two divided doses at 12 hour intervals. For mild to moderate pain such as primary dysmenorrhoea, acute tendinitis and bursitis, the usual initial dose is 500 mg followed by 250 mg every 6 or 8 hours. The total daily dose should not exceed 1250 mg.

In acute gout an initial dose of 750 mg followed by 250 mg every 8 hours has been suggested until the attack subsides.

For juvenile arthritis : A dose of 10 mg/kg body weight daily in 2 divided doses in children over 5 years of age has been recommended.

In the acute phase of the following cases a loading dose of 750 mg per day is recommended.

- ◆ In patients reporting severe night time pain and morning stiffness.
- ◆ In patients being switched to Nuprafen (Naproxen) from a high dose of another anti-rheumatic compound.
- ◆ In osteo-arthritis where pain is the predominant symptom.

Contraindication

The drug is contraindicated in patients who are allergic to Naproxen or Naproxen Sodium. It is also contraindicated in patients in whom Aspirin or other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory/analgesic drug induce the symptoms of asthma, rhinitis and nasal polyps.

Drug Interactions

Due to the high plasma protein binding of Naproxen, patients simultaneously receiving Hydantoin, anti-coagulants or a highly protein bound sulphonamide should be observed for signs of overdosage of these drugs. Naproxen and other NSAIDs can reduce the antihypertensive effect of Propranolol and other β - blockers. Probenecid given concurrently, increases the plasma level of Naproxen and extends its plasma half life considerably.

Side Effects

Occasional skin rashes and angio-oedema have been reported. The following additional occurrences have been reported with Naproxen : nausea, vomiting, abdominal discomfort, epigastric distress, headache, inability to concentrate, insomnia, tinnitus and vertigo.

Thrombocytopenia, jaundice, aplastic anaemia, haemolytic anaemia, peptic ulceration, fatal hepatitis, hearing impairment, cognitive dysfunction, anaphylactic reactions to Naproxen and Naproxen sodium formulations and nephropathy may occur rarely.

Mild peripheral oedema has been observed in a few patients receiving Naproxen. Although sodium retention has not been reported in metabolic studies, it is possible that patients with questionable or compromised cardiac function may be at a greater risk when taking Naproxen.

Use in Special Populations

Pregnancy : There are no adequate and well controlled studies in pregnant women. Because animal reproduction studies are not always predictive of human response, Naproxen should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefits justify the potential risks to the foetus.

Lactation : The Naproxen anion has been found in the milk of lactating women. Because of the possible adverse effects of prostaglandin-inhibiting drugs on neonates, use in nursing mothers should be avoided.

Commercial Packs

Nuprafen® 250 Tablet : Box containing 10 blister strips of 10 tablets, each tablet contains 250 mg of Naproxen USP.

Nuprafen® 500 Tablet : Box containing 5 blister strips of 10 tablets, each tablet contains 500 mg of Naproxen USP.