

NSAIDs

what

you and your patients
need to know

Millions of Americans use
OTC NSAIDs everyday.

Although NSAIDs are considered safe when used as directed, **they do carry risks.**

MORE THAN **1** out of
3 adults
have at least one form of CVD¹

NSAIDs have been associated with an
increased risk
of cardiovascular complications:²⁻⁴

HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

80 MILLION

CORONARY HEART DISEASE

15.5 MILLION

MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION

7.6 MILLION

ANGINA PECTORIS

8.2 MILLION

HEART FAILURE

5.7 MILLION

STROKE (all types)

6.6 MILLION

HYPERTENSION

MYOCARDIAL
INFARCTION

STROKE

INCREASE IN SYSTOLIC
BLOOD PRESSURE

Patients taking non-aspirin NSAIDs may be at a risk
of exacerbating existing CVD

The Food and Drug Administration has required an update to the warning on prescription non-aspirin NSAIDs relating to an increased risk for heart attack, stroke, and heart failure. This increase is present in patients with or without heart disease or risk factors for heart disease.⁵

The labels for OTC non-aspirin NSAIDs currently state the risk of heart attack and stroke may increase if NSAIDs are used more than directed or for longer than directed. The FDA indicated it will request similar updates to the existing heart attack and stroke risk information in the Drug Facts labels of OTC non-aspirin NSAIDs.⁵

Bear all these warnings in mind and
tailor recommendations
for an OTC analgesic
to a patient's particular needs and health status

Consider:

1

Age

2

Coexisting
medical
conditions

3

Current
medications

Find out if your patient has CVD. Talk to your patients about NSAIDs.

Help patients understand their risk of heart attack or stroke when using NSAIDs.

Help patients understand how to read the labels of their OTC medications to identify NSAID-containing products.

Direct your patients, when taking OTC NSAIDs, to use the lowest effective dose for the shortest period of time.



NSAIDs may interact with medications commonly used in patients with CVD risks.

Ibuprofen may decrease the benefit of aspirin heart therapy.⁶
Ibuprofen can reduce the cardioprotective effects of low-dose aspirin by interfering with aspirin's ability to bind COX-1 platelets.



This infographic provided with support from McNeil Consumer Healthcare

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