







# IBUPROFEN

NSAID, nonselective

Availability <sup>1</sup>	Brand name	Quick guide
Oral liquid 20 mg/mL, 40 mg/mL Some brands contain sorbitol	Advil Children, Advil Infant, Bugesic, Fenpaed, Nurofen for Children	
Chewable tablet 100 mg	Advil Children	
Tablet, film-coated 200 mg, 400 mg	Advil, Brufen, Nurofen, Rafen Generics are available	
Capsule, liquid-filled 200 mg	Advil, Nurofen, Rafen Gel	
Tablet, modified-release 300 mg, 600 mg	Advil 12 Hour, Nurofen 12 Hour	
Combination tablet ibuprofen 200 mg & codeine 12.8 mg	Brufen Plus, Ibudeine, Nurofen Plus Generics are available	
Combination tablet with paracetamol 500 mg	Ibupane, Maxigesic, Mersynofen, Nuromol	See <i>PARACETAMOL</i> on p435
Cough and cold preparations of ibuprofen & various ingredients	Multiple brands are available	Contact the pharmacist for suitable products

**Effect of food** Give with or soon after food.<sup>1</sup>

**Dose changes** Use the same dose when switching from the tablet to oral liquid.

**Other forms** Also available as a topical gel.

Available as an IV infusion for post-operative pain management.

Diclofenac and indometacin are available as suppositories.

## What to do for people with enteral feeding tubes

### Option 1

**Do not break or crush the modified-release tablet. Do not crush or open the liquid-filled capsule.** These formulations are not suitable to give by enteral feeding tube.

Use the oral liquid.

Stop the feed and flush the tube with 30 mL of water.

Draw the required dose into an enteral syringe and dilute with at least an equal volume of water. Mix well and give into the enteral feeding tube.

Flush the tube with 30 mL of water and restart the feed.

Dilution of the dose is required to reduce the osmolarity.

Do not use less than 30 mL of water to flush the tube; this avoids interaction with enteral nutrition which may cause tube blockage.<sup>2</sup>

### What to do for people with enteral feeding tubes (*continued*)

- Option 1**  
(*continued*) Advil Children, Fenpaed and Nurofen for Children products are IDDSI Level 2 Mildly Thick fluids.<sup>3</sup> Ensure the dose is diluted well enough to pass through the tube. May not be suitable for fine-bore tubes.  
Check the calculation of the dose carefully; there is more than one strength of the oral liquid available.
- Option 2** Contact the prescriber to consider other options. See *Other forms*.
- Option 3** Suitable for large-bore tubes only.  
Crush the tablet and mix with water, then draw into an enteral syringe.  
See Method B for instructions.  
The tablet does not disperse easily.<sup>4</sup>

### What to do for people with swallowing difficulties

- Do not break, chew or crush the modified-release tablet. Do not crush or open the liquid-filled capsule.** These formulations are not suitable for people with swallowing difficulties.
- Option 1** Use the oral liquid.  
Measure the dose using an oral dispenser or a medicine measure.  
Check the calculation of the dose carefully; there is more than one strength of the oral liquid available.  
Check the thickness of the liquid as it may not be suitable for some people with swallowing difficulties.  
Advil Children, Fenpaed and Nurofen for Children products are IDDSI Level 2 Mildly Thick fluids.<sup>3</sup> See *About oral liquids and thickness testing* on p25 for more information.  
May cause a transient burning sensation of the mouth and throat.<sup>1</sup>
- Option 2** Use the chewable tablet.  
Formulated for children. May not be suitable for all adults with swallowing difficulties.
- Option 3** Contact the prescriber to consider other options. See *Other forms*.
- Option 4** Crush the tablet and mix with water.  
If the person cannot swallow thin fluids, crush the tablet and mix with a spoonful of yoghurt or apple puree.  
See Method E for instructions.  
Crushed tablets may cause throat and mouth irritation.<sup>1</sup>

#### REFERENCES:

1. Product summary and product information. AusDI [Internet]. Sydney: Health Communication Network; 2021. Accessed 25/06/2021.
2. Klang M, McLymont V, Ng N. Osmolality, pH and compatibility of selected oral liquid medications with an enteral nutrition product. *J Parenter Enteral Nutr* 2013; 37: 689-94.
3. Data on file.
4. SHPA. Drug dispersion database; 2017.