

## What is ibuprofen?

- Ibuprofen is an over-the-counter anti-inflammatory drug
- It can be bought without a prescription
- It can often be used instead of aspirin.

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## What are some brand names?

- Advil
- Aleve
- Excedrin
- Midol
- Motrin
- Pamprin

## What can I use it for?

- Minor aches and pains.
- To reduce fever.
- Headaches.
- To reduce symptoms of arthritis such as swelling, stiffness, and joint pain.
- Menstrual cramps.

## How should I use it?

- Ibuprofen can be taken with or without food.
- If your child gets an upset stomach after taking it, have her take it with food.
- Do not give your child ibuprofen if she is allergic to aspirin.

## How should I store this medication?

- Keep out of the reach of children.
- Keep cap on tight.
- Keep out of heat, direct light, and damp areas.
- Keep from freezing.
- Do not keep medicine that is expired or not needed.

## What is proper dosage?

- Follow instructions for dosage based on doctor's orders or medicine label.
- Make sure you use the dropper or medicine cup that came with the medicine. Don't use a kitchen spoon. Spoons are different sizes and are not a good measuring tool.
- Do not use the dropper for liquid elixir medicine. You may not give your child enough.
- If you lose the original dropper or medicine cup, use a medicine syringe bought at the drug store. The pharmacist can show you how to use it.
- The following table is the recommended dosage for ibuprofen. Dosage should be based on your child's weight, not age.
- If you still aren't sure of the dose, talk to your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist.

mg= milligrams

ml=milliliters

**Ibuprofen Dosage: Given every 6-8 hours**

<b>Age</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Drops</b> 50 mg/ 1.25 ml	<b>Elixir</b> 100 mg/ 5 ml	<b>Chewable Tablets</b> 100 mg/ tablet
0-5 months	6-11 lbs.	X	X	X
6-11 months	12-17 lbs.	1.25 ml or 1 dropperful	X	X
12-23 months	18-23 lbs.	1 1/2 dropperful	X	X
2-3 years	24-35 lbs.	X	1 tsp	X
4-5 years	36-47 lbs.	X	1 1/2 tsp	X
6-8 years	48-59 lbs	X	2 tsp	2 tablets
9-10 years	60-71 lbs	X	2 1/2 tsp	2 1/2 tablets
11 years	72-95 lbs.	X	3 tsp	3 tablets

### What are possible side effects?

- Nausea, heartburn.
- Stomach ache, cramps.
- Diarrhea, gas, vomiting, or constipation.
- Feeling dizzy, tired, lightheaded, or confused.

### What are signs of a severe reaction?

Call the doctor at once if your child has one of these reactions:

- Wheezing.
- Fever.
- Tightness in the chest.
- Itching, rash, hives.
- Bad cough, vomiting, or diarrhea.
- Blue skin color or swelling in the face, lips, tongue, or throat.
- Blood in the stool, vomit, or coughing up blood.
- Strange bruising or bleeding.
- Ringing in ears.
- Vision changes.

### When should I call the doctor?

- Call the doctor if your child has side effects.
- Call your doctor before taking ibuprofen if you are pregnant or breastfeeding.
- Call your doctor if your child has a history of alcohol abuse, has bleeding problems, diabetes, hemorrhoids, kidney disease, anemia, hepatitis, asthma, heart disease, or high blood pressure.
- If your child needs to take this medicine for a long time, such as to treat arthritis, talk to your doctor first.
- If your child takes ibuprofen regularly, tell the doctor or dentist prior to having surgery.
- Call your doctor at once if your child has chills, fever, muscle aches, pain, or gets a rash after taking ibuprofen.
- Call your doctor if symptoms do not improve, if fever lasts for more than 3 days, or if a painful area becomes red and swollen.
- Call the doctor if you have questions about proper dosage.

### Quick Answers

- Ibuprofen is an over-the-counter anti-inflammatory drug.
- Some brand names are Advil, Aleve, Excedrin, Genpril, Midol, Motrin, and Pamprin.
- It can be used for minor aches and pains, to reduce fever, for headaches, menstrual cramps, or to reduce symptoms of arthritis.
- Do not give your child ibuprofen if she is allergic to aspirin.
- Follow instructions for dosage based on doctor's orders or medicine label and your child's weight.
- Side effects include nausea, diarrhea, gas, vomiting, dizziness, or confusion.
- Signs of a severe reaction include wheezing, fever, itching, rash, swelling, blood in the stool or vomit, or unusual bruising or bleeding.
- Call the doctor if your child has side effects after taking ibuprofen or if symptoms do not improve after a few days.

## References

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