

# NSAIDs

Lecture no.4

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Editing File



# Objectives

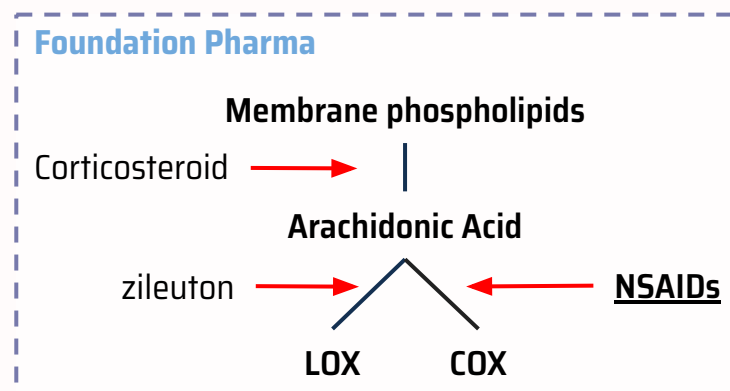
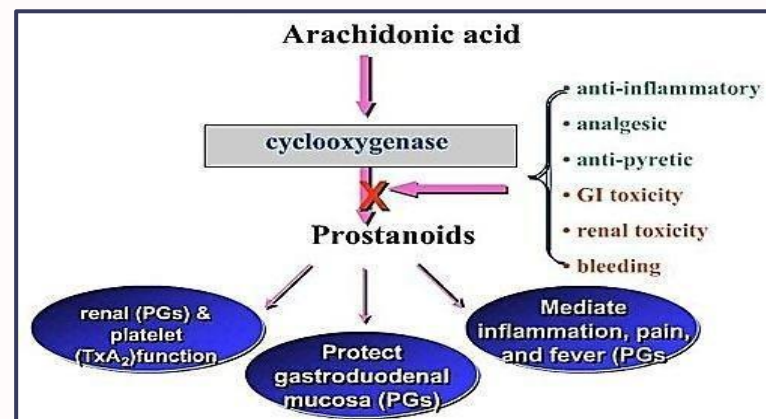
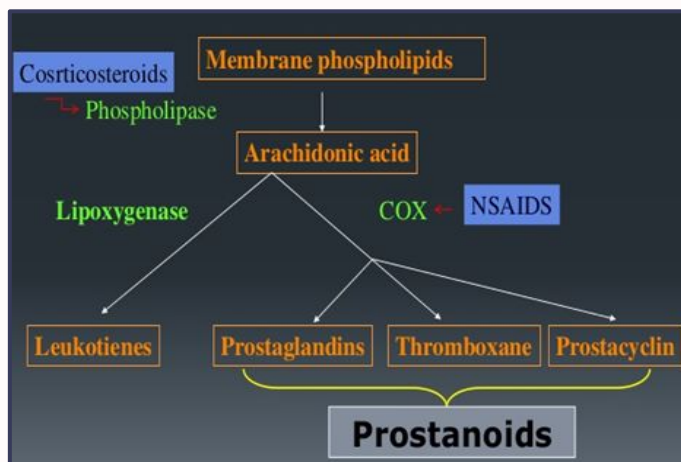
- To focus on the general mechanism of action of NSAIDs.
- To classify NSAIDs on basis of their specificity to COX isoenzymes.
- To outline the common pharmacodynamic effect and ADRs of NSAIDs.
- To detail on the pharmacokinetic properties and pharmacodynamic effects of selected NSAIDs.

# NSAIDs EPIDEMIOLOGY

- 1- NSAIDs account for 3.8% of all prescriptions.
- 2- A significant quantity is sold over the counter (OTC). OTC means that can be sold without prescription.
- 3- Use increases with age.
- 4- 90% of all NSAIDs prescriptions are issued to patients at ages over 65 years.
- 5- NSAIDs is the most prominent risk for gastric ulceration, hemorrhage and perforation.
- 6- The prevalence of NSAIDs-induced ulcers is 10% -30%

# NSAIDs M.O.A

NSAIDs inhibit cyclooxygenase enzyme (COX) which leads to the inhibition of prostanoids synthesis. There is another pathway that NSAIDs won't act on (Lipoxygenase).



# COX Isoforms

## COX-1 “constitutive”

**Constitutive Homeostatic functions:**  
GIT, Renal tract, platelet function, macrophages differentiation.

Inhibiting COX-1 with NSAIDs may cause ulcers in the stomach and promote bleeding. “Undesirable effect”

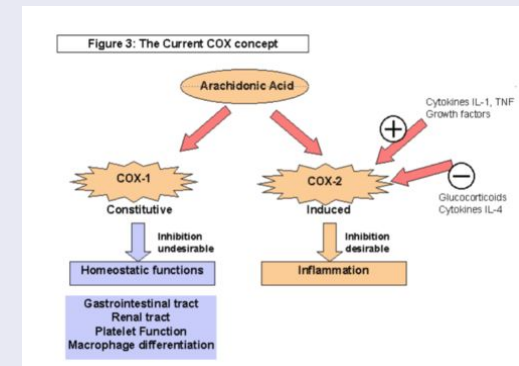
## COX-2 “Induced”

**Induced Inflammation:**  
Activated by IL-1, TNF,  
Inhibited by IL-4,  
glucocorticoids.

Inhibiting COX-2 with NSAIDs will reduce pain and inflammation  
“desirable effect”.

## COX-3

In the brain, so drugs targeting COX-3 are safe for use during pregnancy



Pharma 438: Prostanoids promote inflammation, pain and fever. As a consequence, ongoing inflammation, pain and fever are reduced = all actions and side effects are due to this inhibition. (Corticosteroids inhibit phospholipase A2 and the formation of arachidonic acid which produces prostanoids).

Pharma 438:

NSAIDs: Non steroidal anti inflammatory drugs, are group of drugs that share in common the capacity to induce the following effects in the next page.

# NSAIDs Effects

## Analgesic مُسكن

Inflammatory factors increase PGs, Bradykinin and Histamine. Those three would stimulate nociceptors at nerve endings which can cause **pain**. Another job for PGs is to increase Bradykinin and histamine, **so NSAIDs Analgesic would decrease PGs ---> decreasing Bradykinin and histamine**

**-Mechanism:** Block PGs production.

**-Site of Action:** peripheral tissue.

**-Used for:**

Headache, Migraine, Dental pain, Dysmenorrhea (painful menstruation and abdominal cramps).

## Antipyretic

خافض للحرارة

Pyrogens (microbes) and inflammatory factors stimulate formation of Prostaglandins, which then increase the set point of the thermoregulatory center in the brain. This leads to  $\uparrow$  heat production ( $\uparrow$  metabolism) and  $\downarrow$  heat dissipation (loss) ( $\downarrow$ metabolism,  $\uparrow$ sweat), resulting in **FEVER**.

**- Mechanism:** Block PGs production.

**-Site of action:**CNS.

**-Used for:**

reducing fever back to normal body temperature.

## Anti-Inflammatory

The (5-Ht) Histamine, bradykinin, and inflammatory factors will stimulate the PG which will cause symptoms of inflammation: pain, redness, heat, swelling.

**Mechanism:**

Block PGs production.

**Site of Action:** peripheral tissue.

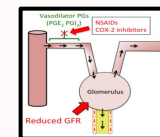
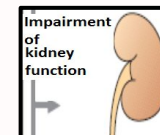
**Used for:**

Rheumatoid arthritis/ Myositis, inflammation and degeneration of muscle tissue, Common cold.

it's animated in the slides but here's the explanation

# ADRS of NSAIDs

- 1- GIT upset: (nausea, vomiting).
- 2- GIT bleeding and ulceration. (due to blockage of constitutive COX which protects GIT).
- 3- Hypersensitivity reaction.
- 4- Inhibition of uterine contraction.  
(By blockage of constitutive COX and reducing PGs which induce labor by contraction).
- 5- Salt and water retention. Decreased excretion due to reduced GFR.
- 6- NSAIDs cause hemodynamically-mediated acute failure. (COX1 would produce PGF2 and PGI2 that are vasodilators for renal tubules, preventing them would inhibit vasodilation ---> decreasing GFR causing renal failure.). Can be detected by (Cystatin C) (Foundation biomarkers)



In more detail : (HUGE THANKS TO TEAM 435)

Prostaglandins (PGE2 & PGI2) cause vasodilation of the afferent arterioles of the glomeruli. This helps maintain normal renal blood flow and GFR. NSAIDs prevent the synthesis of PGE2 & PGI2 by inhibition of both COX-1 & COX-2 enzymes (mainly COX-2). Decreased synthesis of PGs results in retention of sodium and water, causing edema of lower limbs in some patients, hyperkalemia & interstitial nephritis. Patients with a history of heart failure or kidney disease are at particularly high risk.

## Clinical Uses of NSAIDs

- 1 FEVER
- 2 Headache, Migraine, Dental pain  
Dysmenorrhea.
- 3 Common Cold
- 4 Rheumatoid arthritis / myositis

## Classification of NSAIDs

<b>Nonselective COX1/COX2 Inhibitors</b>	<b>Aspirin</b> , Diclofenac, piroxicam, Ibuprofen, naproxen, ketoprofen, indomethacin
<b>Selective COX-2 Inhibitors</b>	Coxibs ( <b>Celecoxib</b> , <b>Etoricoxib</b> , <b>Parecoxib</b> , <b>Lumiracoxib</b> )
<b>Preferential COX-2 Inhibitors</b>	<b>Meloxicam</b> , Nimesulide, Nabumetone.
<b>COX-3 Inhibitors</b>	<b>Paracetamol (is not NSAID)</b>



# Non selective Cox 1,2 Inhibitors

**Aspirin**, Diclofenac (voltage), Piroxicam, Ibuprofen, Naproxen, Ketoprofen, Indomethacin

## 1. Aspirin (Acetylsalicylate)

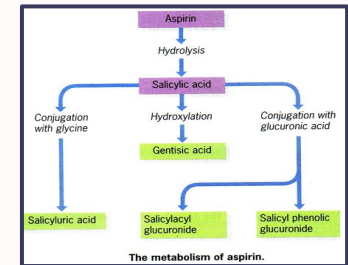
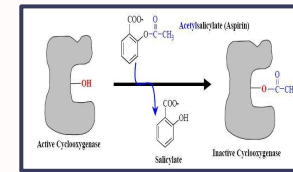
### M.O.A

Aspirin binds with the active site of COX enzyme and makes it inactive. Aspirin inhibits COX **irreversibly**.  
(All NSAIDs bind reversibly except Aspirin).

### P.K

Metabolized by hydrolysis to Salicylic Acid then conjugation:

- 1- Conjugation with glycine
- 2- Conjugation with glucuronic acid
- 3- Hydroxylation

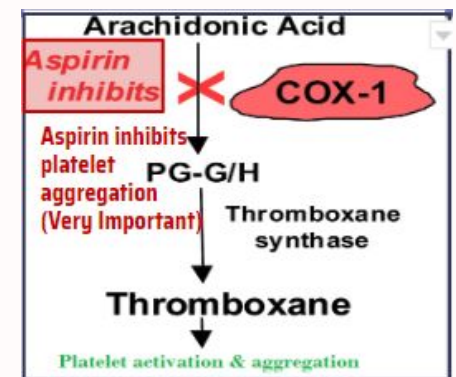


Why does a high dose of Aspirin have a long plasma half-life?

Pharma 439: Aspirin follows 1) Zero-Order kinetics, meaning that the rate of elimination is constant regardless of the concentration. 2) saturation of metabolize enzyme.

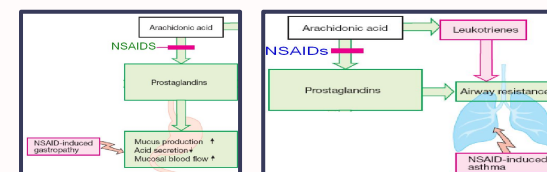
### Clinical uses

- Acute rheumatic fever.
  - Reduces the risk of myocardial infarction (**cardioprotective**).
  - Inhibition of thrombosis formation. Most important effect.
- They prevent platelet COX 1, inhibiting TXA2 formation which is essential for platelet aggregation. (As seen in the picture)
- Prevention of pre-eclampsia (تسمم الحمل) (increase in BP during pregnancy)
  - Chronic use of small doses reduce the incidence of colon cancer. (Doctor says we still don't know really why).
- 443 note : Aspirin is not recommended for:  
1-tremors 2-bleeding 3-deformities in fetus (pregnancy) 4-delayed delivery



### ADRs at clinical dose

- 1-Hypersensitivity
- 2-Acute gouty arthritis due to uric acid retention (Low doses -> prevent uric acid excretion -> leads to accumulation -> Gout)
- 3-Reye's syndrome Affects children with viral infection who take aspirin. (Reye's syndrome is rare but is a serious encephalopathy & causes fatty degenerative liver failure (swelling in the liver and brain).
- 4-Impaired haemostasis. Inhibit platelet aggregation -> prevent clotting -> cause bleeding
- 5-GIT side effects, dyspepsia, nausea and vomiting
- 6-Mucosal damage → hemorrhage
- 7-Bronchospasm in aspirin- sensitive asthmatics (Cuz LOX is still working).

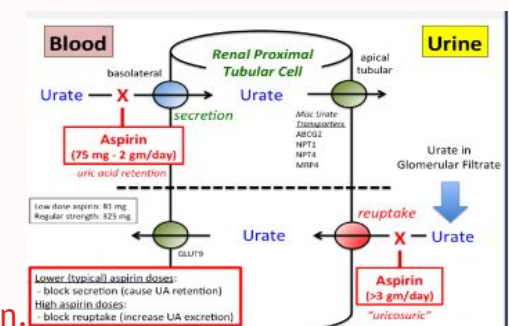


### ADRs at overdose

Salicylism (ringing of ear, vertigo), Hyperthermia, Gastric ulceration and bleeding.

### Contraindications

- 1-Peptic ulcer
- 2-Pregnancy (paracetamol is the safest during pregnancy).
- 3-Hemophilic Patients
- 4-Patients taking anticoagulant, it may cause excessive bleeding.
- 5-Children with viral infections (Cuz it might develop Reye's syndrome)
- 6-Gout (at small dose):
  - ★ Small dose of aspirin cause retention of uric acid cuz of **blockage of secretion**.
  - While the high dose causes an Increase in uric acid excretion By **blockage of reabsorption**.



# Non Selective Cox 1,2 Inhibitors

## 2. DICLOFENAC

### Clinical uses

- 1- Analgesic.
- 2- Antipyretic.
- 3- Anti-inflammatory.
- 4- Acute gouty arthritis.
- 5- Used locally to prevent postoperative ophthalmic inflammation (solution). e.g(eye drops & for treating inflammation after operations on the eye.) (ophthalmic= related to the eye.)

### Preparations

- 1- Diclofenac with **misoprostol** (Prostaglandin analog) decreases upper GIT ulceration, but results in diarrhea.
- 2- Diclofenac with **omeprazole** to prevent peptic ulceration, and recurrent bleeding.
- 3- 0.1% ophthalmic preparation for postoperative ophthalmic inflammation.
- 4- A topical gel 3% for solar keratosis, which is a common skin condition resulting from skin damaged by the sun for many years.
- 5- Oral mouth wash.
- 6- Intramuscular Preparations for pain & fever
- 7- Rectal suppository as analgesic.





# Selective cox-2 Inhibitors

Coxibs: (Celecoxib, Etoricoxib, Parecoxib, Lumiracoxib).

## Coxibs

<b>M.O.A</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Potent anti-inflammatory.</li> <li>● Antipyretic &amp; analgesic.</li> <li>● Lower incidence of gastric upset.</li> <li>● No effect on <b>platelet aggregation</b> (COX-1) and stomach (safe for patients with peptic ulcer).</li> </ul>	
<b>General ADRs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Allergy.</li> <li>● Dyspepsia &amp; heartburn.</li> <li>● Renal toxicity.</li> <li>● <b>Cardiovascular</b> (Do not offer the cardioprotective effects of non-selective group).</li> <li>● should not be given to a patient with CV disease. (cox2 creates PGI2 and cox1-&gt;TXA2)</li> </ul>	
<b>Clinical uses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Short-term use in postoperative patients.</li> <li>● Acute gouty arthritis.</li> <li>● Acute musculoskeletal pain.</li> <li>● Ankylosing spondylitis (spine arthritis).</li> </ul>	
<b>P.k</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● t1/2= 11 hours.</li> <li>● Food decreases its absorption (shouldn't be given with food)</li> <li>● Highly bound to plasma proteins.</li> <li>● <b>Contraindicated</b> in patients <b>allergic to sulfonamides</b>.</li> </ul>	

## Preferential COX-2 Inhibitors:

Meloxicam, Nimesulide, Nabumetone.

<b>Notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Preferentially inhibit COX-2 over COX-1 particularly at low doses. (They are non-selective but inhibit COX-2 more at low doses).</li> <li>● t1/2=20 hours</li> <li>● Associated with lower GIT symptoms &amp; complains, compared to non-selective COX inhibitors.</li> <li>● Used for Osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● It becomes non selective in the case of an overdose.</li> </ul>
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## COX-3 Inhibitors:

Paracetamol (Acetaminophen).

<b>P.k</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Given orally ,well absorbed</li> <li>● Metabolized by conjugation at therapeutic doses</li> <li>● t1/2 =2-4 h</li> </ul>	
<b>Action</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Antipyretic, Analgesic</li> <li>● Weak anti-inflammatory effect (Not used as anti inflammatory)</li> <li>● Binding of paracetamol to COX is inhibited by peroxides produced in inflammatory sites.</li> <li>● There is no evidence that COX 3 exists in humans.</li> </ul>	
<b>Clinical Uses</b>	<p>Commonly used as an analgesic and antipyretic instead of aspirin in cases of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Peptic or gastric ulcers.</li> <li>● Pregnancy.</li> <li>● <b>Viral infections in children</b>.</li> <li>● <b>Bleeding tendency</b> (No cardio protection since it doesn't affect COX-1).</li> <li>● Allergy to aspirin.</li> </ul>	
<b>ADRs</b>	<p>Mainly on liver due to its active metabolite:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Therapeutic doses elevate liver enzymes (no significant ADR).</li> <li>● Large doses metabolized into N- acetyl-p-benzoquinone imine, which causes <b>liver damage</b>.</li> <li>● Chronic abuse lead to <b>Nephrotoxicity</b>.</li> </ul>	<p>★ <b>Treatment of toxicity of paracetamol</b> is by <b>N- acetylcysteine</b> to neutralize the toxic metabolite.</p>

# MCQs

Q1. Among NSAIDs, aspirin is unique because it:

- |   |                   |   |  |
|---|-------------------|---|--|
| a) Irreversibly inhibits target enzyme. | b) Reduces fever. | c) Selectively inhibits the COX-2 enzyme. | d) Increases the risk of colon cancer. |
|---|-------------------|---|--|

Q2. Meloxicam is an example of which of the following?

- |                                 |                               |                    |                              |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| a) Preferential COX-2 inhibitor | b) selective COX-1 inhibitor. | c) COX-3 inhibitor | d) Selective COX-2 inhibitor |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|

Q3. Which of the following drugs should not be prescribed to children with Reye's Syndrome?

- |              |            |                |               |
|--------------|------------|----------------|---------------|
| a) Celecoxib | b) Aspirin | c) Paracetamol | d) Ketoprofen |
|--------------|------------|----------------|---------------|

Q4. Which of the following is safe for use by pregnant women?

- |                |            |               |        |
|----------------|------------|---------------|--------|
| a) Paracetamol | b) Aspirin | c) Diclofenac | d) ARB |
|----------------|------------|---------------|--------|

Q5. One of the contraindications of Celecoxib is?

- |                         |                   |                         |                 |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| a) rheumatoid arthritis | b) osteoarthritis | c) Sulfonamides allergy | d) peptic ulcer |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|

Answers:

- 1) A  
2) A  
3) B  
4) A  
5) C

# SAQs

1

Mention THREE general adverse effects for NSAIDs?

- Hypersensitivity reaction
- GI bleeding & ulceration
- Nausea & vomiting

2

Describe the mechanism of action of NSAIDs:

They inhibit cyclooxygenase enzyme (COX) which leads to inhibition of prostanooids synthesis

3

Name ONE contraindication for the use of celecoxib?

patient with CV diseases.

4

What is the antidote of paracetamol toxicity?

N - acetylcysteine.

## Team Leaders:



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- Shoug Albattah

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