

## **Package leaflet: Information for the patient**

### **Nuprin 75 mg gastro-resistant tablets**

acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin)

**Read all of this leaflet carefully before you start taking this medicine because it contains important information for you.**

- Keep this leaflet. You may need to read it again.
- If you have any further questions, ask your doctor or pharmacist.
- This medicine has been prescribed for you only. Do not pass it on to others. It may harm them, even if their signs of illness are the same as yours.
- If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor or pharmacist. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. See section 4.

#### **What is in this leaflet:**

1. What Nuprin is and what it is used for
2. What you need to know before you take Nuprin
3. How to take Nuprin
4. Possible side effects
5. How to store Nuprin
6. Contents of the pack and other information

#### **1. What Nuprin is and what it is used for**

Nuprin contains acetylsalicylic acid, which in low doses belong to a group of medicines called anti-platelet agents. Platelets are tiny cells in the blood that cause the blood to clot and are involved in thrombosis. When a blood clot occurs in an artery it stops the blood flowing and cuts off the oxygen supply. When this happens in the heart it can cause a heart attack or angina; in the brain it can cause a stroke.

Nuprin is taken to reduce the risk of blood clots forming and thereby prevent further:

- heart attacks
- strokes
- cardiovascular problems in patients who suffer from stable or unstable angina (a type of chest pain).

Nuprin is also used to prevent the formation of blood clots after certain types of heart surgery in order to widen or to unblock the blood vessels. Aspirin is released slowly from these tablets, so Nuprin is not suitable for the short-term relief of pain, such as headaches or toothache.

If you take aspirin in high doses or over a long period of time, it can irritate your stomach lining. To prevent stomach irritation, these tablets have a special coating (called enteric) so that the aspirin is not released until it has passed through the stomach.

This medicinal product is not recommended for emergencies. It can only be used as a preventive treatment.

#### **2. What you need to know before you take Nuprin**

**Do not take Nuprin if you**

- are allergic to acetylsalicylic acid or any of the ingredients of this medicine (listed in section 6)
- if you have ever had bleeding or perforation in the stomach or intestines related to aspirin or other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs). NSAIDs (e.g. ibuprofen or naproxen) are often used for arthritis or rheumatism and pain
- have had a cerebral haemorrhage (a type of stroke caused by bleeding in your brain)
- have had an asthma attack or swelling of some parts of the body e.g. face, lips, throat or tongue (angioedema) after taking salicylates or NSAIDs
- currently have or have ever had an ulcer in your stomach or small intestine, or severe inflammatory bowel disease (Crohn's or ulcerative colitis), or any other type of bleeding like a stroke
- have ever had the problem of your blood not clotting properly or suffer from bleeding problems
- have severe liver, kidney or heart problems
- are in your last 3 months of pregnancy; you must not use higher doses than 100 mg per day (see section "Pregnancy and breast-feeding")
- are taking a medicine called methotrexate (e.g. for cancer or rheumatoid arthritis) in doses higher than 15 mg per week

### **Warnings and precautions**

Talk to your doctor or pharmacist before taking Nuprin if you:

- have trouble with your kidneys, liver or heart
- have or have ever had problems with your stomach or small intestine
- have high blood pressure
- have been told you have a lack of glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD)
- are asthmatic, have hay fever, nasal polyps or other chronic respiratory diseases; acetylsalicylic acid may induce an asthma attack
- have ever had gout
- have heavy menstrual periods
- are elderly

You must immediately seek medical advice, if your symptoms get worse or if you experience severe or unexpected side effects e.g. unusual bleeding symptoms, serious skin reactions or any other sign of serious allergy (see section "Possible side effects").

Inform your doctor if you are planning to have an operation (even a minor one, such as tooth extraction) since acetylsalicylic acid is blood-thinning there may be an increased risk of bleeding.

Acetylsalicylic acid may cause Reye's syndrome when given to children. Reye's syndrome is a very rare disease which affects the brain and liver and can be life threatening. For this reason, Nuprin should not be given to children aged under 16 years, unless on the advice of a doctor.

You should take care not to become dehydrated (you may feel thirsty with a dry mouth) since the use of acetylsalicylic acid at the same time may result in deterioration of kidney function.

This medicinal product is not suitable as a pain killer or fever reducer.

If any of the above applies to you, or if you are not sure, speak to your doctor or pharmacist before you take Nuprin.

### **Other medicines and Nuprin**

Tell your doctor or pharmacist if you are taking, have recently taken or might take any other medicines.

The effect of treatment may be influenced if acetylsalicylic acid is taken at the same time as some other medicines for:

- thinning of the blood/prevention of clots (e.g. warfarin, heparin, clopidogrel, dipyridamole)

- rejection of organ after transplantation (cyclosporin, tacrolimus)
- high blood pressure (e.g. diuretics and ACE-inhibitors)
- regulation of the heart beat (e.g. digoxin, cardiac glycosides)
- manic-depressive illness (lithium)
- pain and inflammation (e.g. NSAIDs such as ibuprofen, or steroids)
- gout (e.g. probenecid)
- control of epilepsy (valproate, phenytoin)
- glaucoma (acetazolamide)
- cancer or rheumatoid arthritis (methotrexate; in doses lower than 15 mg per week)
- diabetes (e.g. glibenclamide)
- depression (selective serotonin re-uptake inhibitors (SSRIs) such as sertraline or paroxetine).
- use as hormone replacement therapy when the adrenal glands or pituitary gland have been destroyed or removed, or to treat inflammation, including rheumatic diseases and inflammation of the intestines (corticosteroids)
- sulfonamides (a type of antibiotic) such as sulfamethoxazole
- antacids (indigestion medicine). Do not take antacids just before or after taking Nuprin as they may cause the aspirin to be released too soon.
- aminoglycosides (a group of antibiotics)
- gold (which is sometimes used in rheumatic conditions)
- an anaesthetic called thiopental

Metamizole (substance to decrease pain and fever) may reduce the effect of acetylsalicylic acid on platelet aggregation (blood cells sticking together and forming a blood clot), when taken concomitantly. Therefore, this combination should be used with caution in patients taking low dose aspirin for cardio protection.

Before using aspirin, you should inform a healthcare professional about the medicines you are taking. If you are using aspirin regularly you should seek advice before taking any other medicine (including other medicines you may have bought).

Tell your doctor that you are taking aspirin if you are to have a urine test, as it can sometimes interfere with the results.

### **Nuprin with alcohol**

Drinking alcohol may possibly increase the risk of gastrointestinal bleeding and prolong bleeding time.

### **Pregnancy, breast-feeding and fertility**

#### **Pregnancy**

If you are pregnant or breast-feeding, think you may be pregnant or are planning to have a baby, ask your doctor or pharmacist for advice before taking this medicine.

Pregnant women should not take acetylsalicylic acid during pregnancy unless advised by their doctor. You should not take Nuprin if you are in the last 3 months of pregnancy, unless you are advised to do so by your doctor and then the daily dose should not exceed 100 mg (see section “Do not take Nuprin”). Regular or high doses of this medicinal product during late pregnancy can cause serious complications in the mother or baby.

#### **Breast-feeding**

Breast-feeding women should not take acetylsalicylic acid unless advised by their doctor. Some of the aspirin could be in your breast milk and could harm your baby.

#### **Fertility**

Do not take Nuprin if you are trying to become pregnant as aspirin may reduce female fertility.

### **Driving and using machines**

Nuprin should not affect your ability to drive and use machines.

### **Nuprin contains sodium**

This medicine contains less than 1 mmol sodium (23 mg) per tablet, that is to say essentially ‘sodium-free’.

## **3. How to take Nuprin**

Always take Nuprin exactly as your doctor or pharmacist has told you. Check with your doctor or pharmacist if you are not sure.

### Adults

*Prevention of heart attacks:*

- The recommended dose is 75-160 mg once daily.

*Prevention of strokes:*

- The recommended dose is 75-325 mg once daily.

*Prevention of cardiovascular problems in patients who suffer from stable or unstable angina (a type of chest pain):*

- The recommended dose is 75-160 mg once daily.

*Prevention formation of blood clots after certain types of heart surgery:*

- The recommended dose is 75-160 mg once daily.

### Elderly

As for adults. In general, acetylsalicylic acids should be used with caution in elderly patients who are more prone to adverse events. Treatment should be reviewed at regular intervals.

### Use in children and adolescents

Acetylsalicylic acid should not be administered to children and adolescents younger than 16 years, unless prescribed by a doctor (see section “Warnings and precautions”).

### Method of administration

For oral use.

The tablets should be swallowed whole with sufficient fluid (1/2 glass of water). The tablets have a gastro-resistant coating which prevents irritant effects on the gut, and should therefore not be crushed, broken or chewed.

If you may be taking this medicine for a long time, you should talk to your doctor about it.

### **If you take more Nuprin than you should**

If you (or someone else) accidentally take too many tablets, you should tell your doctor at once or contact the nearest casualty department. Show any left-over medicines or the empty packet to the doctor.

Common symptoms of an overdose include:

- vomiting
- dehydration
- ringing in the ears
- loss of balance (vertigo)
- deafness
- sweating
- warm hands and feet with a racing pulse
- unusually fast or deep breathing.

Less common symptoms of an overdose include:

- vomiting blood
- high fever
- alteration in blood platelets which may lead to an increased risk of bleeding or bruising
- lowering of blood sugar levels (typical early warning signs are feeling hungry, trembling or shakiness and sweating)
- low blood levels of potassium which can cause muscle weakness, twitching or abnormal heart rhythm
- kidney failure (symptoms include swollen ankles, hands or feet and blood in the urine)
- fluid build-up in the lungs which can cause severe breathlessness.

**If you forget to take Nuprin**

If you miss a dose, wait until it is time for your next dose, then go on as normal.

Do not take a double dose to make up for a forgotten tablet.

If you have any further questions on the use of this medicine, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

#### **4. Possible side effects**

Like all medicines, this medicine can cause side effects, although not everybody gets them.

**If you notice any of the following serious side effects, stop taking Nuprin and contact a doctor immediately:**

- Sudden wheezing, swelling of your lips, face or body, rash, fainting or difficulties swallowing (severe allergic reaction).
- Reddening of the skin with blisters or peeling and may be associated with a high fever and joint pains. This could be erythema multiforme, Stevens-Johnson syndrome or Lyell's syndrome.
- Unusual bleeding, such as coughing up blood (however small the amount), blood in your vomit or urine, or black stools.

Common side effects (may affect up to 1 in 10 people):

- Indigestion.
- Increased tendency for bleeding.

Uncommon side effects (may affect up to 1 in 100 people):

- Hives.
- Runny nose.
- Wheezing or breathing difficulty.

Rare side effects (may affect up to 1 in 1000 people):

- Severe bleeding in the stomach or intestines, brain haemorrhage; altered number of blood cells.
- Nausea and vomiting.
- Cramps in the lower respiratory tract, asthma attack.
- Inflammation in the blood vessels.
- Bruising with purple spots (cutaneous bleeding).
- Severe skin reactions such as rash known as erythema multiforme and it's life threatening forms Stevens-Johnson syndrome and Lyell's syndrome, skin peeling or blistering.
- Hypersensitivity reactions, such as swelling of e.g. lips, face or body, or shock.
- Abnormal heavy or prolonged menstrual periods

Not known (frequency cannot be estimated from the available data)

- Ringing in your ears (tinnitus) or reduced hearing ability.
- Headache.

- Vertigo.
- Nose bleed
- Ulcers in stomach or small intestine and perforation.
- Pain or discomfort in your stomach or lower chest after eating
- Diarrhoea
- Flatulence
- Constipation
- Worsening of colitis, Crohn's disease or irritation of your colostomy
- Recurrent mouth ulcers
- Prolonged bleeding time.
- Impaired kidney function, kidney stones (which can cause severe stomach or back pains).
- Impaired liver function (with symptoms that may include a yellowing of the skin or whites of the eyes (jaundice), dark yellow urine and fatigue).
- High level of uric acid in the blood.

### **Reporting of side effects**

If you get any side effects, talk to your doctor, pharmacist or nurse. This includes any possible side effects not listed in this leaflet. You can also report side effects directly via HPRA Pharmacovigilance Website: [www.hpra.ie](http://www.hpra.ie)

By reporting side effects you can help provide more information on the safety of this medicine.

## **5. How to store Nuprin**

Keep this medicine out of the sight and reach of children.

Store below 25°C.

Store in the original package in order to protect from moisture.

Do not use this medicine after the expiry date which is stated on the carton/blister after EXP. The expiry date refers to the last day of that month.

Do not throw away any medicines via wastewater or household waste. Ask your pharmacist how to throw away medicines you no longer use. These measures will help protect the environment.

## **6. Contents of the pack and other information**

### **What Nuprin contains**

The active substance is acetylsalicylic acid. Each gastro-resistant tablet contains 75 mg of acetylsalicylic acid.

The other ingredients are: *tablet core*: microcrystalline cellulose, maize starch, colloidal anhydrous silica, stearic acid; *seal coat*: *opadry clear YS-1-7006 containing* – hypromellose, polyethylene glycol (*macrogol*), *film-coating*: methacrylic acid – ethyl acrylate copolymer (1:1), polysorbate 80, sodium laurilsulfate, triethyl citrate, ferric oxide yellow, talc.

### **What Nuprin looks like and contents of the pack**

Nuprin gastro-resistant tablets 75 mg are yellow to light yellow, oval, biconvex, gastro-resistant tablets, 9.2 x 5.2 mm.

*Pack sizes:*

Blisters: 10, 20, 28, 30, 50, 56, 60, 90, 100 gastro-resistant tablets.

Not all pack sizes may be marketed.

**Marketing Authorisation Holder**

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**This medicinal product is authorised in the Member States of the EEA under the following names:**

Ireland	Nuprin
United Kingdom	Aspirin 75 mg Enteric-coated Tablets

**This leaflet was last approved in July 2024**