

Other information about NSAIDs

- Aspirin is an NSAID but it does not increase the chance of a heart attack. Aspirin can cause bleeding in the brain, stomach, and intestines. Aspirin can also cause ulcers in the stomach and intestines.
- Some NSAIDs are sold in lower doses without a prescription (over-the-counter). Talk to your healthcare provider before using over-the-counter NSAIDs for more than 10 days.

General information about the safe and effective use of NSAIDs

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Medication Guide. Do not use NSAIDs for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give NSAIDs to other people, even if they have the same symptoms that you have. It may harm them.

If you would like more information about NSAIDs, talk with your healthcare provider. You can ask your pharmacist or healthcare provider for information about NSAIDs that is written for health professionals.



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Aspirin	
Clinical Impact:	A pharmacodynamic (PD) study has demonstrated an interaction in which lower dose naproxen (220mg/day or 220mg twice daily) interfered with the antiplatelet effect of low-dose immediate-release aspirin, with the interaction most marked during the washout period of naproxen. <i>[see Clinical Pharmacology (12.2)]</i> . There is reason to expect that the interaction would be present with prescription doses of naproxen or with enteric-coated/low-dose aspirin; however, the peak interference with aspirin function may be later than observed in the PD study due to the longer washout period. Controlled clinical studies showed that the concomitant use of NSAIDs and analgesic doses of aspirin does not produce any greater therapeutic effect than the use of NSAIDs alone. In a clinical study, the concomitant use of an NSAID and aspirin was associated with a significantly increased incidence of GI adverse reactions as compared to use of the NSAID alone. <i>[see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)]</i> .
Intervention:	Because there may be an increased risk of cardiovascular events following discontinuation of naproxen due to the interference with the antiplatelet effect of aspirin during the washout period, for patients taking low-dose aspirin for cardioprotection who require intermittent analgesics, consider use of an NSAID that does not interfere with the antiplatelet effect of aspirin, or non-NSAID analgesics where appropriate. Concomitant use of naproxen oral suspension and analgesic doses of aspirin is not generally recommended because of the increased risk of bleeding. <i>[see Warnings and Precautions (5.12)]</i> . Naproxen oral suspension is not a substitute for low dose aspirin for cardiovascular protection.
ACE Inhibitors, Angiotensin Receptor Blockers, and Beta-Blockers	
Clinical Impact:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">NSAIDs may diminish the antihypertensive effect of angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors, angiotensin receptor blockers (ARBs), or beta-blockers (including propranolol).In patients who are elderly, volume-depleted (including those on diuretic therapy), or have renal impairment, co-administration of an NSAID with ACE inhibitors or ARBs may result in deterioration of renal function, including possible acute renal failure. These effects are usually reversible.
Intervention:	During concomitant use of naproxen oral suspension and ACE-inhibitors, ARBs, or beta-blockers, monitor blood pressure to ensure that the desired blood pressure is obtained. <ul style="list-style-type: none">During concomitant use of naproxen oral suspension and ACE-inhibitors or ARBs in patients who are elderly, volume-depleted, or have impaired renal function, monitor for signs of worsening renal function. <i>[see Warnings and Precautions (5.6)]</i>.When these drugs are administered concomitantly, patients should be adequately hydrated. Assess renal function at the beginning of the concomitant treatment and periodically thereafter.
Diuretics	
Clinical Impact:	Clinical studies, as well as post-marketing observations, showed that NSAIDs reduced the natriuretic effect of loop diuretics (e.g., furosemide) and thiazide diuretics in some patients. This effect has been attributed to the NSAID inhibition of renal prostaglandin synthesis.
Intervention:	During concomitant use of naproxen oral suspension and diuretics, observe patients for signs of worsening renal function, in addition to assuring diuretic efficacy including antihypertensive effects. <i>[see Warnings and Precautions (5.6)]</i> .
Digoxin	
Clinical Impact:	The concomitant use of naproxen with digoxin has been reported to increase the serum concentration and prolong the half-life of digoxin.
Intervention:	During concomitant use of naproxen oral suspension and digoxin, monitor serum digoxin levels.
Lithium	
Clinical Impact:	NSAIDs have produced elevations in plasma lithium levels and reductions in renal lithium clearance. The mean minimum lithium concentration increased 15%, and the renal clearance decreased by approximately 20%. This effect has been attributed to NSAID inhibition of renal prostaglandin synthesis.
Intervention:	During concomitant use of naproxen oral suspension and lithium, monitor patients for signs of lithium toxicity.
Methotrexate	
Clinical Impact:	Concomitant use of NSAIDs and methotrexate may increase the risk for methotrexate toxicity (e.g., neutropenia, thrombocytopenia, renal dysfunction).
Intervention:	During concomitant use of naproxen oral suspension and methotrexate, monitor patients for methotrexate toxicity.
Cyclosporine	
Clinical Impact:	Concomitant use of naproxen oral suspension and cyclosporine may increase cyclosporine's nephrotoxicity.
Intervention:	During concomitant use of naproxen oral suspension and cyclosporine, monitor patients for signs of worsening renal function.
NSAIDs and Salicylates	
Clinical Impact:	Concomitant use of naproxen with other NSAIDs or salicylates (e.g., difflural, salicylate) increases the risk of GI toxicity, with little or no increase in efficacy. <i>[see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)]</i> .
Intervention:	The concomitant use of naproxen with other NSAIDs or salicylates is not recommended.
Pemetrexed	
Clinical Impact:	Concomitant use of naproxen oral suspension and pemetrexed may increase the risk of pemetrexed-associated myelosuppression, renal, and GI toxicity (see the pemetrexed prescribing information).
Intervention:	During concomitant use of naproxen oral suspension and pemetrexed, in patients with renal impairment whose creatinine clearance ranges from 45 to 75 mL/min, monitor for myelosuppression, renal and GI toxicity. NSAIDs with short elimination half-lives (e.g., diclofenac, indomethacin) should be avoided for a period of two days before, the day of, and two days following administration of pemetrexed. In the absence of data regarding potential interaction between pemetrexed and NSAIDs with longer half-lives (e.g., meloxicam, nabumetone), patients taking these NSAIDs should interrupt dosing for at least five days before, the day of, and two days following pemetrexed administration.
Antacids and Sucralfate	
Clinical Impact:	Concomitant administration of some antacids (magnesium oxide or aluminum hydroxide) and sucralfate can delay the absorption of naproxen.
Intervention:	Concomitant administration of antacids such as magnesium oxide or aluminum hydroxide, and sucralfate with naproxen oral suspension is not recommended.
Cholestyramine	
Clinical Impact:	Concomitant administration of cholestyramine can delay the absorption of naproxen.
Intervention:	Concomitant administration of cholestyramine with naproxen oral suspension is not recommended.
Probenecid	
Clinical Impact:	Probenecid given concurrently increases naproxen anion plasma levels and extends its plasma half-life significantly.
Intervention:	Patients simultaneously receiving naproxen oral suspension and probenecid should be observed for adjustment of dose if required.
Other albumin-bound drugs	
Clinical Impact:	Naproxen is highly bound to plasma albumin; it thus has a theoretical potential for interaction with other albumin-bound drugs such as coumarin-type anticoagulants, sulphonylureas, hydantoin, other NSAIDs, and aspirin. <i>[see Warnings and Precautions (5.2)]</i> .
Intervention:	Patients simultaneously receiving naproxen oral suspension and a hydantoin, sulphonylamide or sulphonylurea should be observed for adjustment of dose if required.

Drug/Laboratory Test Interactions

Bleeding times	
Clinical Impact:	Naproxen may decrease platelet aggregation and prolong bleeding time.
Intervention:	This effect should be kept in mind when bleeding times are determined.
Porter-Silber test	
Clinical Impact:	The administration of naproxen may result in increased urinary values for 17-ketogenic steroids because of an interaction between the drug and/or its metabolites with m-dinitrobenzene used in this assay.
Intervention:	Although 17-hydroxy-corticosteroid measurements (Porter-Silber test) do not appear to be artificially altered, it is suggested that therapy with naproxen be temporarily discontinued 72 hours before adrenal function tests are performed if the Porter-Silber test is to be used.
Urinary assays of 5-hydroxy indoleacetic acid (SHIAA)	
Clinical Impact:	Naproxen may interfere with some urinary assays of 5-hydroxy indoleacetic acid (SHIAA).
Intervention:	This effect should be kept in mind when urinary 5-hydroxy indoleacetic acid is determined.

8 USE IN SPECIFIC POPULATIONS

8.1 Pregnancy

Risk Summary

Use of NSAIDs, including naproxen oral suspension, can cause premature closure of the fetal ductus arteriosus and fetal renal dysfunction leading to oligohydramnios and, in some cases, neonatal renal impairment. Because of these risks, limit dose and duration of naproxen oral suspension use between about 20 and 30 weeks of gestation, and avoid naproxen oral suspension use at about 30 weeks of gestation and later in pregnancy. *[see Clinical Considerations, Data].*

Premature Closure of Fetal Ductus Arteriosus

Use of NSAIDs, including naproxen oral suspension, at about 30 weeks gestation or later in pregnancy increases the risk of premature closure of the fetal ductus arteriosus.

Oligohydramnios/Neonatal Renal Impairment

Use of NSAIDs at about 20 weeks gestation or later in pregnancy has been associated with cases of fetal renal dysfunction leading to oligohydramnios, and in some cases, neonatal renal impairment.

Data from observational studies regarding other potential embryofetal risks of NSAID use in women in the first or second trimesters of pregnancy are inconclusive. In animal reproduction studies in rats, rabbits, and mice no evidence of teratogenicity or fetal harm when naproxen was administered during the period of organogenesis at doses 0.13, 0.26, and 0.6 times the maximum recommended human daily dose of 1500 mg/day, respectively. Based on animal data, prostaglandins have been shown to have an important role in endometrial vascular permeability, blastocyst implantation, and decidualization. In animal studies, administration of prostaglandin synthesis inhibitors such as naproxen, resulted in increased pre- and post-implantation loss. Prostaglandins also have been shown to have an important role in fetal kidney development. In published animal studies, prostaglandin synthesis inhibitors have been reported to impair kidney development when administered at clinically relevant doses.

The estimated background risk of major birth defects and miscarriage for the indicated population(s) is unknown. All pregnancies have a background risk of birth defect, loss, or other adverse outcomes. In the U.S. general population, the estimated background risk of major birth defects and miscarriage in clinically recognized pregnancies is 2% to 4% and 15% to 20%, respectively.

Clinical Considerations

Fetal/Neonatal Adverse Reactions

Premature Closure of Fetal Ductus Arteriosus:

Avoid use of NSAIDs in women at about 30 weeks gestation and later in pregnancy, because NSAIDs, including naproxen oral suspension, can cause premature closure of the fetal ductus arteriosus. *(see Data).*

Oligohydramnios/Neonatal Renal Impairment:

If an NSAID is necessary at about 20 weeks gestation or later in pregnancy, limit the use to the lowest effective dose and shortest duration possible. If naproxen oral suspension treatment extends beyond 48 hours, consider monitoring with ultrasound for oligohydramnios. If oligohydramnios occurs, discontinue naproxen oral suspension, and follow up according to clinical practice. *(see Data).*

Labor or Delivery

There are no studies on the effects of naproxen oral suspension during labor or delivery. In animal studies, NSAIDs, including naproxen, inhibit prostaglandin synthesis, cause delayed parturition, and increase the incidence of stillbirth.

Data

Human Data

There is some evidence to suggest that when inhibitors of prostaglandin synthesis are used to delay preterm labor there is an increased risk of neonatal complications such as necrotizing enterocolitis, patent ductus arteriosus and intracranial hemorrhage. Naproxen treatment given in late pregnancy to delay parturition has been associated with persistent pulmonary hypertension, renal dysfunction and abnormal prostaglandin E levels in preterm infants. Because of the known effects of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs on the fetal cardiovascular system (closure of ductus arteriosus), use during pregnancy (particularly starting at 30 weeks of gestation, or third trimester) should be avoided.

Premature Closure of Fetal Ductus Arteriosus:

Published literature reports that the use of NSAIDs at about 30 weeks of gestation and later in pregnancy may cause premature closure of the fetal ductus arteriosus.

Oligohydramnios/Neonatal Renal Impairment:

Published studies and postmarketing reports describe maternal NSAID use at about 20 weeks gestation or later in pregnancy associated with fetal renal dysfunction leading to oligohydramnios, and in some cases, neonatal renal impairment. These adverse outcomes are seen, on average, after days to weeks of treatment, although oligohydramnios has been infrequently reported as soon as 48 hours after NSAID initiation. In many cases, at or about the decrease in amniotic fluid was transient and reversible with cessation of the drug. There have been a limited number of case reports of maternal NSAID use and neonatal renal dysfunction without oligohydramnios, some of which were irreversible. Some cases of neonatal renal dysfunction required treatment with invasive procedures, such as exchange transfusion or dialysis.

Methodological limitations of these postmarketing studies and reports include lack of a control group; limited information regarding dose, duration, and timing of drug exposure; and concomitant use of other medications. These limitations preclude establishing a reliable estimate of the risk of adverse fetal and neonatal outcomes with maternal NSAID use. Because the published safety data on neonatal outcomes involved mostly preterm infants, the generalizability of certain reported risks to the full-term infant exposed to NSAIDs through maternal use is uncertain.

Animal Data

Reproduction studies have been performed in rats at 20 mg/kg/day (0.13 times the maximum recommended human daily dose of 1500 mg/day based on body surface area comparison), rabbits at 20 mg/kg/day (0.26 times the maximum recommended human daily dose, based on body surface area comparison), and mice at 170 mg/kg/day (0.6 times the maximum recommended human daily dose based on body surface area comparison) with no evidence of impaired fertility or harm to the fetus due to the drug.

8.2 Lactation

Risk Summary

The naproxen anion has been found in the milk of lactating women at a concentration equivalent to approximately 1% of maximum naproxen concentration in plasma. The developmental and health benefits of breastfeeding should be considered along with the mother's clinical need for naproxen oral suspension and any potential adverse effects on the breastfed infant from the naproxen oral suspension or from the underlying maternal condition.

8.3 Females and Males of Reproductive Potential

Infertility

Females

Based on the mechanism of action, the use of prostaglandin-mediated NSAIDs, including naproxen oral suspension, may delay or prevent ovulation in women. Prostaglandins sensitize afferent nerves and potentiate the action of bradykinin in inducing pain in animal models. Prostaglandins are mediators of inflammation. Because naproxen is an inhibitor of prostaglandin synthesis, its mode of action may be due to a decrease of prostaglandins in peripheral tissues.

Consider withdrawal of NSAIDs, including naproxen oral suspension, in women who have difficulties conceiving or who are undergoing investigation of infertility.

8.4 Pediatric Use

Safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients below the age of 2 years have not been established. Pediatric dosing recommendations for polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis are based on well-controlled studies. There are no adequate effectiveness or dose-response data for other pediatric conditions, but the experience in polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis and other use experience have established that single doses of 2.5 to 5 mg/kg/day (naproxen suspension), with total daily dose not exceeding 15 mg/kg/day, are well tolerated in pediatric patients over 2 years of age.

8.5 Geriatric Use

The hepatic and renal tolerability of long-term naproxen administration was studied in two double-blind clinical trials involving 586 patients. Of the patients studied, 98 patients were age 65 and older and 10 of the 98 patients were age 75 and older. Naproxen was administered at doses of 375 mg twice daily or 750 mg twice daily for up to 6 months. Transient abnormalities of laboratory tests assessing hepatic and renal function were noted in some patients, although there were no differences noted in the occurrence of abnormal values among different age groups. Elderly patients, compared to younger patients, are at greater risk for NSAID-associated serious cardiovascular, gastrointestinal, and/or renal adverse reactions. If the anticipated benefit for the elderly patient outweighs these potential risks, start dosing at the low end of the dosing range, and monitor patients for adverse effects. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.6, 5.14)].* Studies indicate that although total plasma concentration of naproxen is unchanged, the unbound plasma fraction of naproxen is increased in the elderly. The clinical significance of this finding is unclear, although it is possible that the increase in free naproxen concentration could be associated with an increase in the rate of adverse events in some elderly patients. Caution is advised when high doses are required and some adjustment of dosage may be required in elderly patients. As with other drugs used in the elderly, it is prudent to use the lowest effective dose.

Experience indicates that geriatric patients may be particularly sensitive to certain adverse effects of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs. Elderly or debilitated patients seem to tolerate peptic ulceration or bleeding less well when these events do occur. Most spontaneous reports of fatal GI events are in the geriatric population. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.6)].*

Naproxen is known to be substantially excreted by the kidney, and the risk of toxic reactions to this drug may be greater in patients with impaired renal function. Because elderly patients are more likely to have decreased renal function, care should be taken in dose selection, and it may be useful to monitor renal function. Geriatric patients may be at a greater risk for the development of a form of renal toxicity preceded by reduced prostaglandin formation and administration of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.6)].*

8.6 Hepatic Impairment

Caution is advised when high doses are required and some adjustment of dosage may be required in these patients. It is prudent to use the lowest effective dose. *[see Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)].*

8.7 Renal Impairment

Naproxen-containing products are not recommended for use in patients with moderate to severe renal disease (estimated creatinine clearance <30 mL/min) *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.6), Clinical Pharmacology (12.3)].*

10 OVERDOSAGE

Symptoms following acute NSAID overdosages have been typically limited to lethargy, drowsiness, nausea, vomiting, and epigastric pain, which have been generally reversible with supportive care. Gastrointestinal bleeding has occurred. Hypotension, acute renal failure, respiratory depression and coma have occurred, but were rare. A few patients have experienced convulsions, but it is not clear whether or not these were drug-related. It is not known what dose of the drug would be life threatening. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.1, 5.2)].*

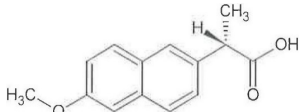
Manage patients with symptomatic and supportive care following an NSAID overdose. There are no specific antidotes. There are no specific antidotes. Hemodialysis does not decrease the plasma concentration of naproxen because of the high degree of its protein binding. Consider emesis and/or activated charcoal (80 to 100 grams in adults, 1 to 2 grams per kg of body weight in pediatric patients) and/or osmotic cathartic in symptomatic patients seen within four hours of ingestion or in patients with a large overdose (5 to 10 times the recommended dosage). Forced diuresis, alkalization of urine, hemodialysis, or hemoperfusion may not be useful due to high protein binding.

For additional information about overdose treatment contact a poison control center (1-800-222-1222).

11 DESCRIPTION

Naproxen oral suspension USP is available as a light orange-colored oral suspension containing 125 mg/5 mL of naproxen for oral administration.

Naproxen is a propionic acid derivative related to the arylacetic acid group of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs. The chemical name is (S)-6-methoxy- α -methyl-2-naphthalene acetic acid. The molecular weight is 230.26. Its molecular formula is $C_{17}H_{15}O_3$, and it has the following chemical structure:



This drug may be greater in patients with impaired renal function. Because elderly patients are more likely to have decreased renal function, care should be taken in dose selection, and it may be useful to monitor renal function. Geriatric patients may be at a greater risk for the development of a form of renal toxicity preceded by reduced prostaglandin formation and administration of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.6)].*

The inactive ingredients in naproxen oral suspension USP include fumaric acid, FD&C yellow 6, microcrystalline cellulose and coarsely methyl cellulose, orange flavor, pineapple fresh flavor, purified water, sodium benzoate, sodium chloride, non-crystallizing sorbitol solution, sucrose and xanthan gum.

12 CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY

12.1 Mechanism of Action

Naproxen has analgesic, anti-inflammatory, and antipyretic properties.

The mechanism of action of naproxen, like that of other NSAIDs, is not completely understood but involves inhibition of cyclooxygenase (COX-1 and COX-2).

Naproxen is a potent inhibitor of prostaglandin synthesis *in vitro*. Naproxen concentrations reached during therapy have produced no adverse effects. Prostaglandins sensitize afferent nerves and potentiate the action of bradykinin in inducing pain in animal models. Prostaglandins are mediators of inflammation. Because naproxen is an inhibitor of prostaglandin synthesis, its mode of action may be due to a decrease of prostaglandins in peripheral tissues.

12.2 Pharmacodynamics

In a healthy volunteer study, 10 days of concomitant administration of naproxen 220 mg once-daily with low-dose immediate-release aspirin (81 mg) showed an interaction with the antiplatelet activity of aspirin as measured by % serum thromboxane B2 inhibition at 24 hours following the day 10 dose (98.7% inhibition with naproxen vs 93.1% (naproxen and aspirin)). The interaction was observed even following discontinuation of naproxen on day 11 (while aspirin dose was continued) but normalized by day 13. In the same study, the interaction was greater when naproxen was administered 30 minutes prior to aspirin (98.7% vs 97.7%) and minimal when aspirin was administered 30 minutes prior to naproxen (98.7% vs 95.4%).

Following administration of naproxen 220 mg twice-daily with low-dose immediate release aspirin (first naproxen dose given 30 minutes prior to aspirin), the interaction was minimal at 24 h following day 10 (98.7% vs 95.4%). However, the interaction was more prominent after discontinuation of naproxen (washout) on day 11 (98.7% vs 84.3%) and did not normalize completely by day 13 (98.5% vs 90.7%). *[see Drug Interactions (7)].*

12.3 Pharmacokinetics

Naproxen is rapidly and completely absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract with an *in vivo* bioavailability of 95%. The elimination half-life of naproxen ranges from 12 to 17 hours. Steady-state levels of naproxen are reached in 4 to 5 days, and the degree of naproxen accumulation is consistent with this half-life.

Absorption

Peak plasma levels of naproxen given as naproxen oral suspension are attained in 1 to 4 hours. When naproxen oral suspension and immediate release naproxen tablets were given to fasted subjects (n=12) in a single-dose, crossover study, there were comparable pharmacokinetic parameters between the two formulations:

	Naproxen Oral Suspension	Naproxen Tablets 500 mg
C_{max} (mg/mL)	64.3	71.1
T_{max} (hours)	2.6	2.3
$t_{1/2}$ (hours)	16.8	16.3
Cl_{CR} (mL/h/mL)	1248	1218

Distribution

Naproxen has a volume of distribution of 0.16 L/kg. At therapeutic levels naproxen is greater than 99% albumin-bound. At doses of naproxen greater than 500 mg/day there is less than proportional increase in plasma levels due to an increase in clearance caused by saturation of plasma protein binding at higher doses (average trough C_{ss} 36.5, 49.2 and 66.4 mg/L with 500, 1000 and 1500 mg daily doses of naproxen, respectively). The naproxen anion has been found in the milk of lactating women at a concentration equivalent to approximately 1% of maximum naproxen concentration in plasma. *[see Use in Specific Populations (8.2)].*

Elimination

Metabolism

Naproxen is extensively metabolized in the liver to 6-O-desmethyl naproxen, and both parent and metabolites do not induce metabolizing enzymes. Both naproxen and 6-O-desmethyl naproxen are further metabolized to their respective acylglucuronide conjugated metabolites.

Excretion

The clearance of naproxen is 0.13 mL/min/kg. Approximately 85% of the naproxen from any dose is excreted in the urine, primarily as naproxen (<1%), 6-O-desmethyl naproxen (<1%) or their conjugates (86% to 92%). The plasma half-life of the naproxen anion in humans ranges from 12 to 17 hours. The corresponding half-lives of both naproxen's metabolites and conjugates are shorter than 12 hours, and their rates of excretion have been found to coincide closely with the rate of naproxen clearance from the plasma. Small amounts, 3% or less of the administered dose, are excreted in the feces. In patients with renal failure metabolites may accumulate. *[see Warnings and Precautions (5.6)].*

Specific Populations

Pediatric

In pediatric patients aged 5 to 16 years with arthritis, plasma naproxen levels following a 5 mg/kg single dose of naproxen suspension *(see Dosage and Administration (2))* were found to be similar to those found in normal adults following a 500 mg dose. The terminal half-life appears to be similar in pediatric and adult patients. Pharmacokinetic studies of naproxen were not performed in pediatric patients younger than 5 years of age. Pharmacokinetic parameters appear to be similar following administration of naproxen oral suspension or tablets in pediatric patients.

Geriatric

Studies indicate that although total plasma concentration of naproxen is unchanged, the unbound plasma fraction of naproxen is increased in the elderly, although the unbound fraction is <1% of the total naproxen concentration. Unbound trough naproxen concentrations in elderly subjects have been reported to range from 0.12% to 0.19% of total naproxen concentration, compared with 0.05% to 0.07% in younger subjects.

Hepatic Impairment

Naproxen pharmacokinetics has not been determined in subjects with hepatic insufficiency. Chronic alcoholic liver disease and probably other causes with decreased or abnormal plasma proteins (albumin) reduce the total plasma concentration of naproxen, but the plasma concentration of unbound naproxen is increased.

Renal Impairment

Naproxen pharmacokinetics has not been determined in subjects with renal insufficiency. Given that naproxen, its metabolites and conjugates are primarily excreted by the kidney, the potential exists for naproxen metabolites to accumulate in the presence of renal insufficiency. Elimination of naproxen is decreased in patients with severe renal impairment.

Drug Interaction Studies

Aspirin

When NSAIDs were administered with aspirin, the protein binding of NSAIDs were reduced, although the clearance of free NSAID was not altered. The clinical significance of this interaction is not known. See Table 2 for clinically significant drug interactions of NSAIDs with aspirin. *[see Drug Interactions (7)].*

13 NONCLINICAL TOXICOLOGY

13.1 Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, and Impairment of Fertility

Carcinogenesis

A 2-year study was performed in rats to evaluate the carcinogenic potential of naproxen at rat doses of 8, 16, and 24 mg/kg/day (0.05, 0.1, and 0.16 times the maximum recommended human daily dose of 1500 mg/day based on a body surface area comparison). No evidence of tumorigenicity was found.

Mutagenesis

Naproxen tested positive in the *in vivo* sister chromatid exchange assay for but was not mutagenic in the *in vitro* bacterial reverse mutation assay (Ames test).

Impairment of Fertility

Male rats were treated with 2, 5, 10, and 20 mg/kg naproxen by oral gavage for 60 days prior to mating and female rats were treated with the same doses for 14 days prior to mating and for the first 7 days of pregnancy. There were no adverse effects on fertility noted (up to 0.13 times the MRRD based on body surface area).

14 CLINICAL STUDIES

Naproxen has been studied in patients with rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, polyarticular juvenile idiopathic arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, tendonitis and bursitis, and acute gout. Improvement in patients treated for rheumatoid arthritis was demonstrated by a reduction in joint swelling, a reduction in duration of morning stiffness, a reduction in disease activity as assessed by both the investigator and patient, and by increased mobility as demonstrated by a reduction in walking time. Moreover, response to naproxen has not been found to be dependent on age, sex, severity or duration of rheumatoid arthritis.