

**Date:**

**Dose prescribed by your doctor:**

**Medication Information for the  
Pediatric Rheumatology Clinic**

# Naproxen

---

## Other names for this medication

- Aleve<sup>®</sup>
- Anaprox<sup>®</sup>
- Naprosyn<sup>®</sup>

## How this medication works

Naproxen is one of a group of medications called NSAIDs: non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs. NSAIDs reduce inflammation, which causes symptoms such as pain, swelling, warmth and fever.

Naproxen can start to relieve symptoms in 2 weeks. It may take up to 6 weeks before you get the full effect of this medication.

Check with your doctor before taking this medication if you have:

- an allergy to aspirin, naproxen or other NSAIDs
- kidney problems
- problems with your gut, such as heartburn, ulcers, bloody bowel movements or vomiting blood

## How to take this medication

Take this medication exactly as directed by your doctor. The dose (amount to take) is based on your weight and condition. Do not change the dose without talking with your doctor.

Naproxen is taken by mouth, usually two times a day. To prevent stomach upset, take this medication right after a meal or snack.

If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. However, if it is almost time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular time. Do not take 2 doses at one time.

## While taking this medication you may notice

**Most children and teens do not have side effects while taking naproxen.**

Some possible side effects include:

- stomach pain, nausea or vomiting
- heartburn or indigestion
- diarrhea or constipation
- dizziness, drowsiness or headache
- easy bruising
- skin rash from exposure to the sun
- ringing in the ears

### Call your doctor if you notice any of these rare, but serious side effects:

- bloody or black bowel movements
- vomiting blood or “coffee grounds”
- a skin rash, hives or itching

**If you cannot reach your doctor, stop taking your medication and go to the nearest hospital emergency room for medical help.**

## What to remember while taking this medication

You may need regular blood tests to check that your liver and kidneys are working well.

Store naproxen at room temperature, in a cool place, away from sunlight.

### Safety first!



- Do not take other NSAIDS such as aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid, ASA) or ibuprofen (Advil<sup>®</sup> or Motrin<sup>®</sup>). This can increase the risk of stomach problems.
- Check with your pharmacist or doctor before taking any other prescription medications, over-the-counter medications, herbal or natural products.
- Do not share this medication with anyone.