

A pair of glasses, a paperclip, and a stethoscope are arranged on a white sheet of paper. The glasses are on the left, the paperclip is in the center, and the stethoscope is on the right. The text 'NSAIDS' is printed in a large, bold, black serif font across the middle of the page.

NSAIDS

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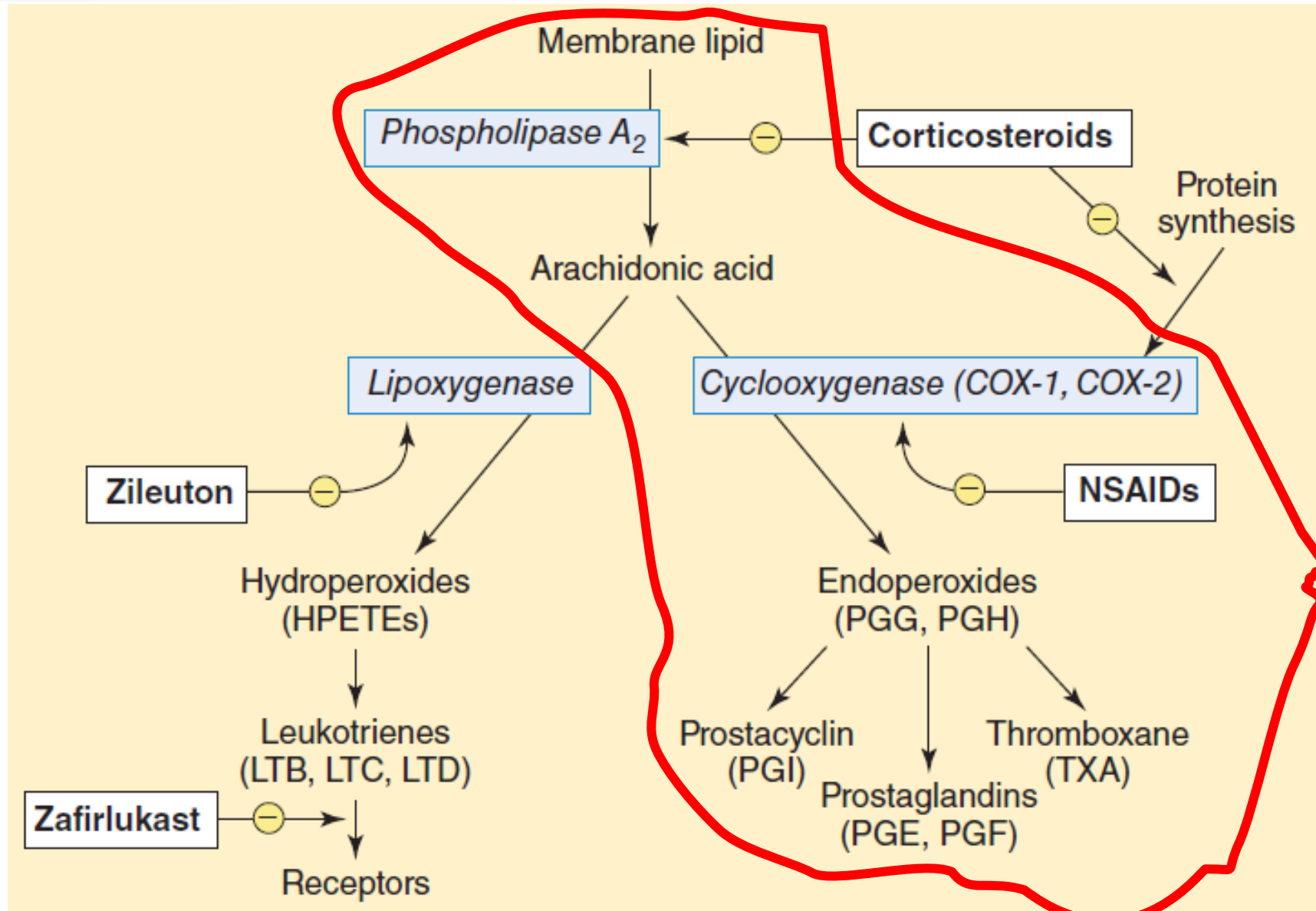
PhD Clinical Pharmacology

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Autacoids

- **Amines:**
 - Histamine
 - 5-Hydroxytryptamine
- **Peptide:**
 - Bradykinin
 - Angiotensin
- **Lipids:**
 - Leukotriens
 - Prostaglandins

Lipids/ Eicosanoid



Anti-inflammatory drugs, acetaminophen,
drugs used in gout

Anti-inflammatory
drugs

Acetaminophen

Drugs used
in gout

NSAIDs

DMARDs

Acute

Chronic

Aspirin

Other
nonselective
NSAIDs

COX-2
inhibitors
(celecoxib)

NSAIDs

Glucocorticoids

Colchicine

Uricosurics
(probenecid)

Xanthine oxidase
inhibitors (allopurinol)

Anti-inflammatory, Antipyretic, and Analgesic Agents



I. NONSTEROIDAL ANTI-INFLAMMATORY DRUGS (NSAIDs)

A. Aspirin and other NSAIDs

B. Celecoxib

II. ACETAMINOPHEN

Drug	Half-life (hours)
Aspirin	0.25
Celecoxib	11
Diclofenac	1.1
Diflunisal	13
Etodolac	6.5
Fenoprofen	2.5
Flurbiprofen	3.8
Ibuprofen	2
Indomethacin	4-5
Ketoprofen	1.8
Ketorolac	4-10
Meloxicam	20
Nabumetone ^a	26
Naproxen	14
Oxaprozin	58
Piroxicam	57
Sulindac	8
Tolmetin	1

NONSTEROIDAL ANTI-INFLAMMATORY DRUGS

The NSAIDs are a group of chemically dissimilar agents that differ in their antipyretic, analgesic, and anti-inflammatory activities. The class includes derivatives of:

Salicylic acid (*aspirin, diflunisal, salsalate*)

Propionic acid (*ibuprofen, fenoprofen, flurbiprofen, ketoprofen, naproxen, oxaprozin*)

Acetic acid (*diclofenac, etodolac, indomethacin, ketorolac, nabumetone, sulindac, tolmetin*)

Enolic acid (*meloxicam, piroxicam*)

Fenamates (*mefenamic acid, meclofenamate*)

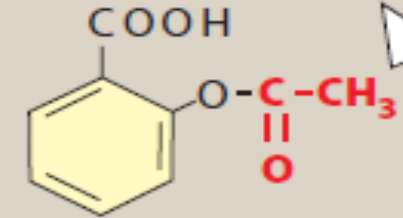
Selective COX-2 inhibitor (*celecoxib*)

NSAIDs

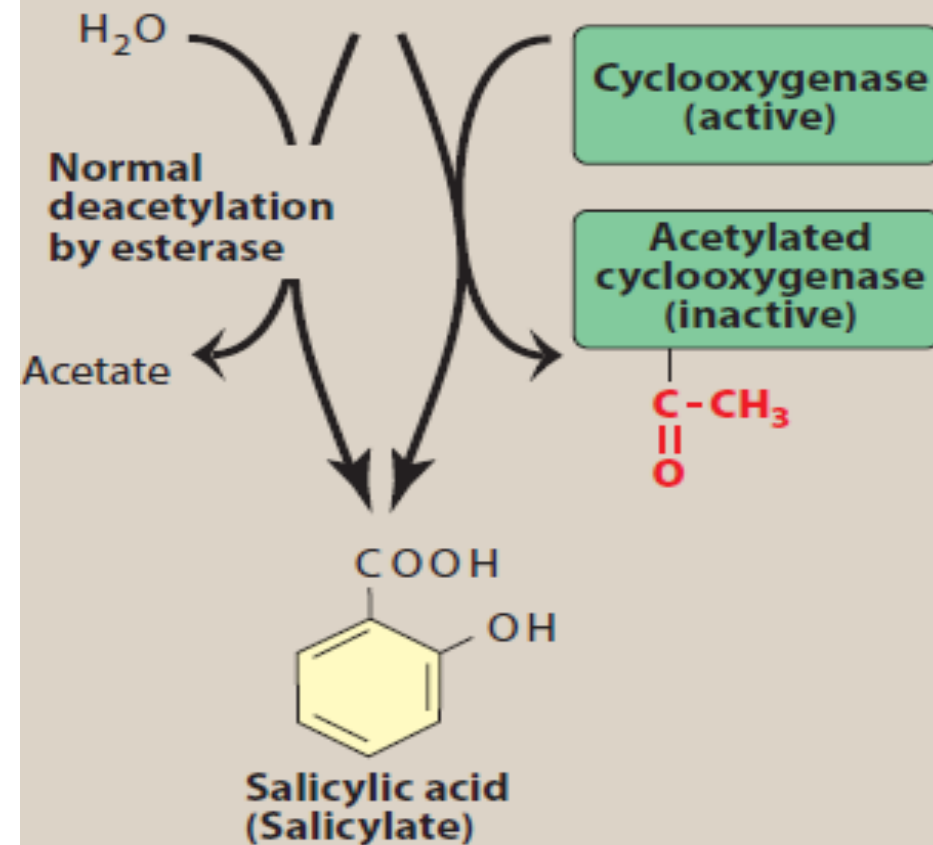
MOA:

NSAIDs are weak organic acid that acetylates/inactivates COX

Acetyl group that is transferred to cyclooxygenase



Aspirin
(Acetylsalicylic acid)



NSAIDs/ Pharmacological Effects:



a. Anti-inflammatory actions:

COX inhibition diminishes the formation of prostaglandins and, thus, modulates aspects of inflammation

b. Analgesic action:

PGE2 sensitizes nerve endings to the action of bradykinin, histamine, and other mediators. Thus, by decreasing PGE2 synthesis, the sensation of pain can be decreased. All agents are generally considered to have equivalent efficacy.

- Used mainly for the management of mild to moderate pain arising from musculoskeletal disorders.

Ketorolac can be used for more severe pain but for only a short duration.

NSAIDs/ Pharmacological Effects:

c. Antipyretic action:

infection
hypersensitivity
malignancy
inflammation

WBCs
are
activated

Pyrogens
(such as
cytokines) are
released

PGE₂
synthesis

the set-point of the
thermoregulatory
center is elevated



Mechanism of temperature elevation

- NSAIDs have no effect on normal body temperature, **WHY??**

NSAIDs/ Therapeutic Uses

a. Anti-inflammatory and analgesic uses:

NSAIDs are used in the treatment of:

- Osteoarthritis, gout, and RA
- Common conditions (e.g headache, arthralgia, myalgia, and dysmenorrhea)



Salicylates:

Low doses  Antiplatelet

High doses  analgesic

Higher doses  analgesic + anti-inflammatory

NSAIDs/ Therapeutic Uses

b. Antipyretic uses:

Aspirin, ibuprofen, and naproxen

Aspirin should be avoided in patients less than 20 years old with viral infections, to prevent Reye syndrome

Reye's syndrome is a rare but serious condition that results in microvesicular hepatic steatosis (fatty changes of the liver) and acute encephalopathy (altered mental status) primarily in children and teenagers recovering from a viral illness (such as influenza or varicella zoster virus).

The underlying problem with the use of aspirin during a viral illness is **an inhibition of fatty acid metabolism** in the liver



NSAIDs/ Therapeutic Uses



c. Cardiovascular applications:

Aspirin: (low doses)

Inhibits COX-1-mediated production of TXA2

Used to inhibit platelet aggregation and vasoconstriction

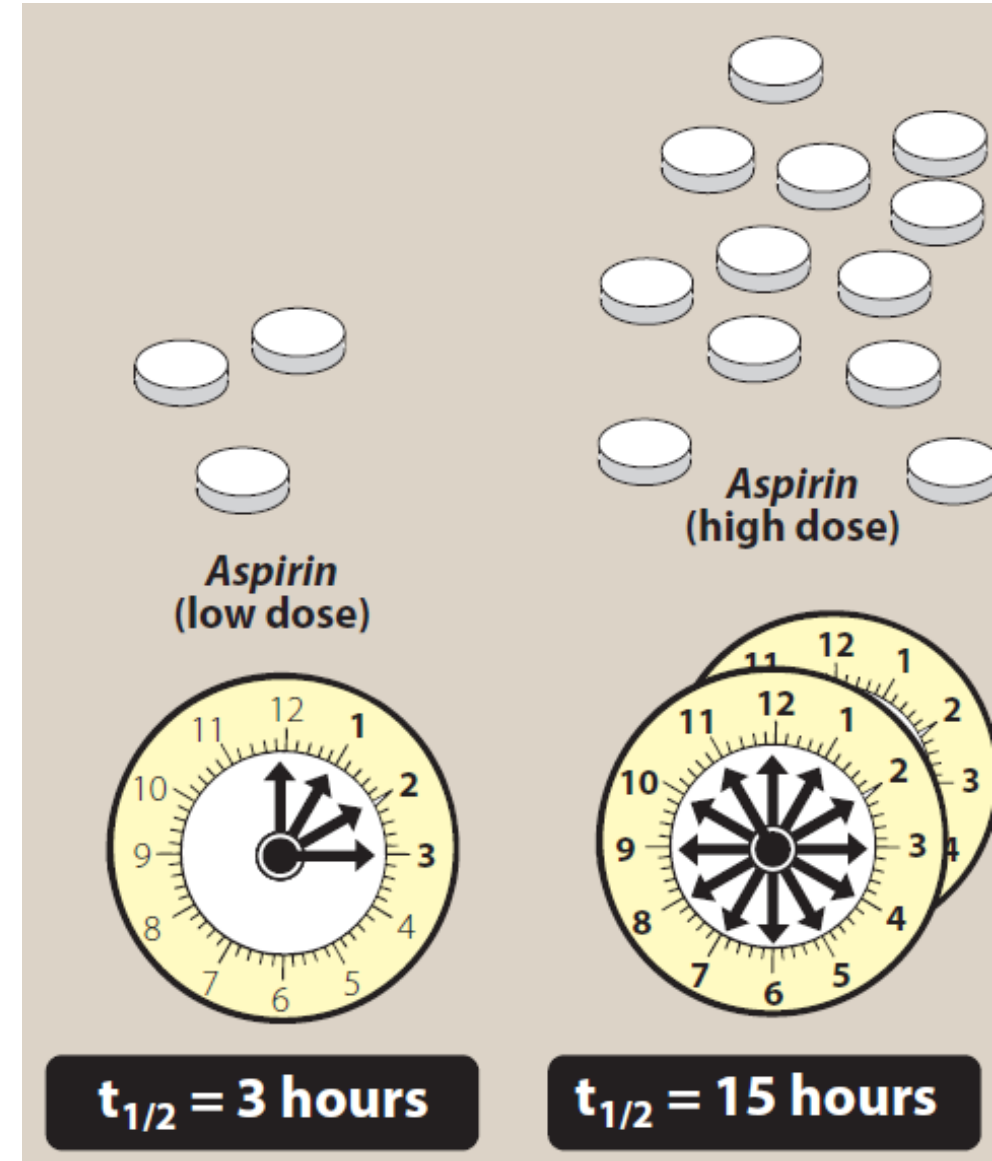
Aspirin are used prophylactically to reduce the risk of recurrent cardiovascular events and/or death in patients:

- 1) with previous MI, unstable angina pectoris, TIA or stroke,
- 3) in high-risk patients such as those with chronic stable angina or diabetes

NSAIDs/ Pharmacokinetics:

Aspirin:

- **oral** administration
- cross the BBB, placenta and are absorbed through intact skin
- cleared by the **kidney**, resulting in **first-order elimination** (t_{1/2} 3.5 hours)
- At anti-inflammatory dosages (**more than 4 g/day**), the **hepatic** metabolic pathway becomes saturated (**zero-order kinetics**) and t_{1/2} of 15 hours
- At low doses of aspirin (less than 2 g/day), uric acid secretion is decreased
- At high doses, uric acid secretion may be unchanged or increased



NSAIDs/ Pharmacokinetics:



Other NSAIDs:

- Well absorbed after oral administration
- Highly bound to plasma proteins
- Metabolized by the liver to inactive metabolites
- Few (nabumetone and sulindac) have active metabolites
- Elimination primarily via the urine.

NSAIDs/ Adverse events



a. Gastrointestinal: (most common)

- Ranging from dyspepsia to bleeding
- By inhibiting of **PGE2 and PGF2 α**
- Agents with a higher selectivity for COX-1 may have a higher risk for GI events

b. Increased risk of bleeding (antiplatelet effect):

COX-1–mediated **TXA2** formation (TXA2 enhances platelet aggregation)

Because platelets lack nuclei, they cannot synthesize new enzyme when inhibited by aspirin, and the lack of thromboxane persists for the lifetime of the platelet (3 to 7 days).

NSAIDs/ Adverse events



c. Actions on the kidney:

- **PGE2 and PGI2** are responsible for maintaining renal blood flow
- NSAIDs can result in retention of sodium and water

d. Cardiac effects:

Agents with higher relative COX-2 selectivity have been associated with an increased risk for cardiovascular events, possibly by decreasing PGI2 production mediated by COX-2.

- **NSAIDs should be used with caution in patients with asthma, why??**

Pregnancy: (Acetaminophen is preferred) NSAIDs should generally be avoided

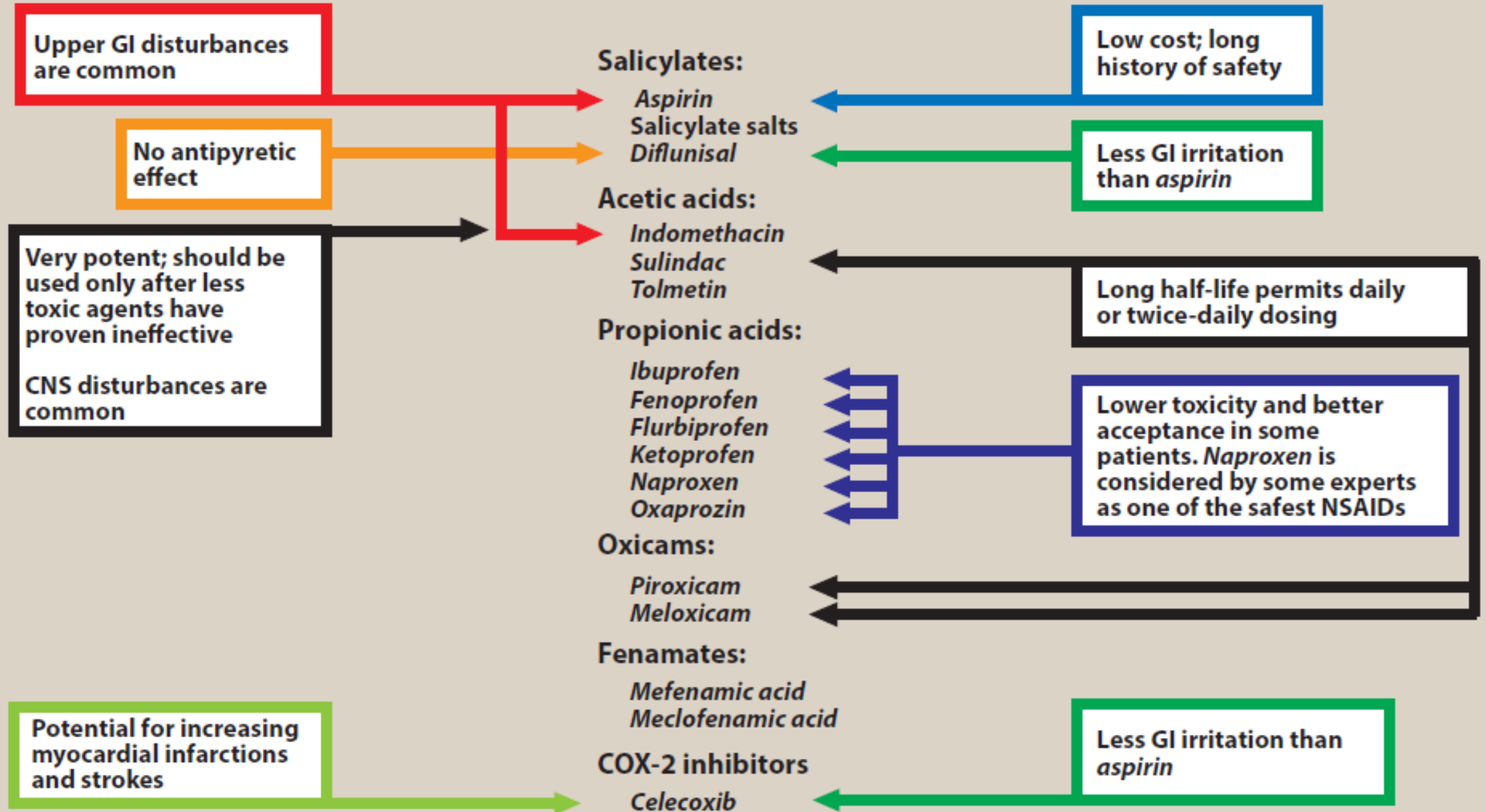
Celecoxib



- Selective **COX-2 inhibitor**
- Treatment of RA, osteoarthritis, and acute mild to moderate pain
- Associated with **less GI bleeding** and dyspepsia than other NSAIDs

Therapeutic disadvantages of selected NSAIDs*

Therapeutic advantages of selected NSAIDs



ACETAMINOPHEN



- Inhibits prostaglandin synthesis in the CNS.
- **Indicated as analgesic and antipyretic for:**
 - ✓ **Patients with gastric complaints/ risks**
 - ✓ **Children with viral infections or chickenpox, WHY??**

At normal therapeutic doses, acetaminophen is virtually free of significant adverse effects

large doses: Hepatic necrosis, a very serious and potentially life threatening condition