

Meloxicam

Indication(s): Pain Management (Trauma-Related Pain)

Contraindications: Hypersensitivity to ASA, meloxicam or other NSAIDs. Active peptic ulcer or active inflammatory bowel disease. Meloxicam should not be used during pregnancy or by nursing mothers.

Precautions: Use with caution in patients with dehydration, impaired renal function, heart failure, liver dysfunction, those taking diuretics and anticoagulants, history of GI irritation and the elderly. GI perforation, ulceration and bleeding, in some cases fatal, have been reported with all systemic NSAIDs. Monitor for increased BP.

Drug Interactions: Other NSAIDs (↑ adverse effects); ASA, anticoagulants, SSRIs (↑ bleeding risk); Corticosteroids (↑ GI bleed risk); Antihypertensives (Potential ↓ antihypertensive effectiveness due NSAIDs tendency ↑ BP). (Avoid if possible – Monitor for all).

Adverse Effects: (1-14%) Nausea, dyspepsia, diarrhea, anorexia, flatulence; (1-10%) Headache, drowsiness, dizziness, tinnitus, rash, prolonged bleeding time, anemia; (2-9%) Edema; (0.7–3%) Hypertension.

Pharmacology: Meloxicam inhibits cyclooxygenase (COX) enzymes which are responsible for mediating several physiologic processes including inflammation and platelet aggregation. Meloxicam has been shown to selectively inhibit COX enzymes responsible for inflammation without impeding platelet function/coagulation hence its appeal in a combat setting.

Dosage and Administration: 15mg PO daily.