

Nonopioids

Nonopioids, including acetaminophen (Tylenol, paracetamol) and NSAIDs are suitable for mild to moderate pain (Table 5-4). These agents are known for the antipyretic, antiinflammatory, and/or analgesic actions (Tobias, 2014a). Nonopioids are usually the first analgesics for pain related to tissue injury, also known as *nociceptive pain*. NSAIDs can provide safe and effective pain relief when dosed at appropriate levels with adequate frequency. Most NSAIDs take about 1 hour for effect, so timing is crucial.

TABLE 5-4

Nonsteroidal Antiinflammatory Drugs for Children

Drug	Dosage	Comments
Acetaminophen (Tylenol)	10-15 mg/kg/dose q 4-6 h PO not to exceed five doses in 24 h or 75 mg/kg/day, or 4000 mg/day	Available in numerous preparations Nonprescription Higher dosage range may provide increased analgesia
Choline magnesium trisalicylate (Trilisate)	10-15 mg/kg q 8-12 h PO Maximum dose 3000 mg/day	Available in suspension, 500 mg/5 ml Prescription
Ibuprofen (children's Motrin, children's Advil)	Children >6 months old: 5-10 mg/kg/dose q 6-8 h Maximum dose 30 mg/kg/day or 3200 mg/day	Available in numerous preparations Available in suspension, 100 mg/5 ml, and drops, 100 mg/2.5 ml Nonprescription
Naproxen (Naprosyn)	Children >2 years old: 5-7 mg/kg/dose every 12 h Maximum 20 mg/kg/day or 1250 mg/day	Available in suspension, 125 mg/5 ml, and several different dosages for tablets Prescription
Indomethacin	1-2 mg/kg q 6-12 h Maximum 4g/kg/day or 200 mg/day	Available in 25-mg and 50-mg capsules and suspension 25 mg/5 ml Prescription
Diclofenac	0.5-0.75 mg/kg q 6-12 h PO Maximum 3 mg/kg day or 200 mg/day	Available in 50-mg tablet and extended release 100-mg tablets Prescription

PO, By mouth.

Data from McAuley DF: *GlobalRPh: NSAID's*, 2013, <http://globalrph.com/nsaids.htm>.

Opioids

Opioids are needed for moderate to severe pain (Tables 5-5 to 5-7). Morphine remains the standard agent used for comparison to other