

*What is Indocin for?*

Indocin is effective in the management of both short-term and long-term—acute or chronic inflammatory lesions of the musculoskeletal system including:

- Degenerative joint disease of the hip (osteoarthritis);
- Gout;
- Rheumatoid spondylitis; and
- Rheumatoid arthritis.

*What will Indocin do?*

When inflammation is causing pain and limitation of motion, therapy with 'Indocin' will usually:

- Promptly relieve pain;
- Reduce fever, swelling, and tenderness; and
- Increase joint mobility.

*What are the advantages of Indocin?*

Indocin is rapid and effective in action. Relief of symptoms is prompt.

(a) In most patients with chronic rheumatoid arthritis, 'Indocin' usually relieves pain and stiffness within 48 hours.

(b) In acute rheumatoid arthritis, or arthritic flares of musculoskeletal pain—'Indocin' usually relieves pain, swelling, and tenderness, and fever within 48 hours.

(c) In acute attacks of gout, 'Indocin' is dramatic. Marked reduction of pain is common within two to four hours. Tenderness and heat subside within 24 to 36 hours, and swelling decreases in 3 to 5 days.

In degenerative joint disease—particularly osteoarthritis of the hip—'Indocin' takes a bit longer to work but has clinically provided RELIEF OF PAIN AND INCREASED RANGE OF MOTION.

*Indocin has an extended margin of safety*

Although 'Indocin' is second in potency only to the steroids—'Indocin' has a wide range of safety.

(a) Chemically, 'Indocin' is related to tryptophan, a naturally occurring amino acid. Unlike Butazolidin, it is not an aminopyrine derivative. Therefore, 'Indocin' does not have the well-documented poisonous effects of aminopyrine and related compounds.

(b) 'Indocin' has no effect on pituitary or adrenal function. Therefore, the well known and well documented side effects of steroids such as hirsutism, psychic disturbances, etc. are not problems in patients on therapy with 'Indocin'.

*Broad applicability*

Because 'Indocin' has an extended margin of safety, it can be safely used on any adult patient.

Because 'Indocin' works even in stubborn, long-standing, degenerative joint disease (osteoarthritis of the hip), it undoubtedly will be dramatically, excitingly effective in routine rheumatoid complaints.

*What is the dose of Indocin and how it is supplied*

(a) Indocin is available as a 25 mg. blue & white capsule.

The cardinal rule in dosage with Indocin is start low and go slow.

In chronic arthritides, the starting dose of 'Indocin' is 1 capsule b.i.d. or t.i.d. If response is inadequate, this dose may be increased by 1 capsule daily at weekly intervals. The new dose is continued until adequate response is obtained or until a maximum of 8 capsules per day is reached.

In acute arthritis, the starting dose of 'Indocin' is 1 capsule b.i.d. or t.i.d. If response is inadequate, one additional capsule per day may be added each day until an adequate response is obtained or until a maximum of 8 capsules daily is given.

In acute gout, the recommended dose of 'Indocin' is 2 capsules t.i.d. This dose may be increased to a maximum of 8 capsules per day if necessary.

In chronic gout, 1 capsule b. i. d. may be given with 'Benemid' to minimize the possibility of subsequent attack.

*What are the precautions of Indocin therapy?*

Unlike Butazolidin, reports of changes in the white blood count in patients on therapy with 'Indocin' have been extremely rare. In most reported cases, it has been impossible to implicate Indocin as the causative agent.

Therefore, unlike Butazolidin, we do not recommend weekly or bi-weekly blood counts in patients being treated with 'Indocin'. Periodic, simple hemoglobin determinations may be made by the physician on routine office visits.