Cardiovascular (CV) disease: When taken regularly, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) can increase CV risks, and these risks may be even greater in patients with known CV disease. NSAIDs have also been linked to an increase in systolic blood pressure.

Gastrointestinal (GI) bleeding: NSAIDs may promote serious GI bleeding, and this risk may be even greater in patients with a history of stomach ulcers or bleeding problems or in individuals who consume 3 or more alcoholic drinks every day while using an NSAID.

Liver disease: Careful consideration should be given when recommending acetaminophen to patients with liver disease or individuals who consume 3 or more alcoholic drinks every day while using acetaminophen.

Asthma, kidney problems, and diabetes: NSAIDs may exacerbate asthma and kidney problems. Careful consideration should be given when recommending an NSAID to patients with diabetes, who may have an increased risk of developing chronic kidney disease.

Evaluate patients for coexisting medical conditions.

Conduct a thorough medication reconciliation.

Educate patients on the safe use of OTC analgesics.

"With enhanced patient communication and education around OTC analgesics, providers can help patients manage their pain both effectively and safely."
References


“With enhanced patient communication and education around OTC analgesics, providers can help patients manage their pain both effectively and safely.”

For more information on safety considerations for OTC analgesic recommendations, visit the GET RELIEF RESPONSIBLY® Professional Resource Center at GetReliefResponsiblyProfessional.com

Additional patient educational resources are available at GetReliefResponsibly.com