Ibuprofen

MEDICATION

THE DRUG

Class: Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory (NSAID) — pain reliever, fever reliever

How it works: Inhibits synthesis of prostanoids by COX-1 and COX-2

USE IT FOR

- Fever >102 degrees
- Tylenol ineffective, or given in the last 4 hours

DON'T GIVE / CAUTION

- Contraindications: hypersensitivity; GI bleed
- Precautions: ASA/NSAID-induced asthma
- Hypertension; CHF (precautions, per page)
- Patients on blood thinners
- Patients who consumed large amounts of alcohol
- Monitor BP, EtCO2, ECG

DOSE

Adult: 10 mg/kg PO (per page)

Peds: [dose not stated in original text]

Repeat: [dose not stated in original text]

WATCH FOR

- Rash; anaphylaxis
- Nausea/vomiting
- Headache
- Abdominal pain; abdominal bleeding
- Dizziness

PEARLS

- Onset 30-60 min; half-life 4-6 hours; peak listed as 'varies' (per page)

Take Home Message:

Ibuprofen is the fever backup when Tylenol fails or was just given — 10 mg/kg by mouth; skip it with GI bleeding.