

# Pain relieving power in harness

When Brufen was first introduced, it soon established a reputation as an effective and exceptionally well tolerated drug.

That was more than ten years ago.

Since then, many new anti-inflammatory agents have become available for the treatment of rheumatic conditions. Brufen has been evaluated against most of them.

Today, Brufen is prescribed in more than 100 countries across the World; more than 30 million people have been treated with Brufen.

Experience has confirmed that Brufen is one of the most efficient, reliable and best tolerated drugs available for the treatment of arthritis.

# BRUFEN 400

ibuprofen B.P.

## The Great British Workhorse in arthritis

**Prescribing Information:**  
**Presentation** Brufen 400, 100mg tablets, 100 tablets per pack. Brufen 200, 200mg tablets, 100 tablets per pack. Brufen 100, 100mg tablets, 100 tablets per pack. Brufen 50, 50mg tablets, 100 tablets per pack. Brufen 25, 25mg tablets, 100 tablets per pack. Brufen 12.5, 12.5mg tablets, 100 tablets per pack. Brufen 6.25, 6.25mg tablets, 100 tablets per pack. Brufen 3.125, 3.125mg tablets, 100 tablets per pack. Brufen 1.5625, 1.5625mg tablets, 100 tablets per pack. Brufen 0.78125, 0.78125mg tablets, 100 tablets per pack. Brufen 0.390625, 0.390625mg tablets, 100 tablets per pack. Brufen 0.1953125, 0.1953125mg tablets, 100 tablets per pack. Brufen 0.09765625, 0.09765625mg tablets, 100 tablets per pack. Brufen 0.048828125, 0.048828125mg tablets, 100 tablets per pack. Brufen 0.0244140625, 0.0244140625mg tablets, 100 tablets per pack. Brufen 0.01220703125, 0.01220703125mg tablets, 100 tablets per pack. Brufen 0.006103515625, 0.006103515625mg tablets, 100 tablets per pack. 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# METHRAZONE<sup>®</sup> HAS THE STRENGTH

feprazone

There's a strong case for including Methrazone in your armamentarium of anti-arthritic agents. Methrazone reinforces your choice of treatment, providing effective relief from the chronic problem of pain, stiffness, inflammation and immobility.

Unlike many other anti-arthritic agents introduced in recent times, Methrazone is founded on strength. Chemically its starting point lies in phenylbutazone. But Methrazone is a whole generation different from phenylbutazone – chemically and clinically. Its one strong similarity to phenylbutazone is a high degree of anti-inflammatory activity.

As befits a modern anti-arthritic, Methrazone has a low incidence of major adverse effects – and has stood up strongly to a particularly searching scrutiny of its safety in short- and long-term monitored programmes. Adding Methrazone to the armamentarium can only strengthen your choice.

**PRESCRIBING INFORMATION: Methrazone - feprazone capsules 200mg.**  
**Action and Indications:** Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agent for rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis. **Contra-indications:** Where there is a danger of cardiac decompensation; hepatic disease; history of peptic ulceration; blood dyscrasia; drug rash or known sensitivity to pyrazoles. **Precautions, Warnings and Side effects:** Concurrent therapy with plasma protein bound agents, as for all pyrazole drugs, blood monitoring and surveillance for sodium and water retention are advised; caution in pregnancy during organogenesis. Mild gastric intolerance, rashes, and occasional headache have been reported. **Dosage:** Adults only: 200-600mg daily in divided doses by mouth after food. **Pack size and basic NHS price (UK only)** 100 capsules, £9.00. PL 0015 0071 ▼ For full prescribing information please see data sheet.   
WB Pharmaceuticals Ltd PO Box 23 Bracknell Berkshire RG12 4YS.

## REALLY ACTIVE IN ARTHRITIS



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**Simpler dosage  
for better patient compliance**

**Rheumatoid arthritis    Osteoarthritis**

Full prescribing information is available  
Geigy Pharmaceuticals, Horsham, West Sussex.

# on the one hand Rheumox<sup>®</sup> relieves pain effectively..

Bi night

## PRESENTATION

Two-tone orange size 1 capsule, monogrammed AHR Rheumox, containing Azapropazone Dihydrate 300mg.

**USES** Rheumox is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory analgesic agent. It is indicated in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis, osteoarthritis and painful musculo-skeletal conditions.

## DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

The recommended starting dose for Rheumox is 1200mg per day given as 1 capsule four times daily. If this dosage is satisfactory it may be given as two 300mg capsules 12 hourly.

Paediatric dosage has not yet been established.

**CONTRAINDICATIONS, WARNINGS, ETC** There are no known absolute contra-indications to Rheumox but it is not recommended in the presence of a peptic ulcer or where there is a history of blood dyscrasia.

Rheumox potentiates the action of oral anti-coagulants in many patients and should not be used with these drugs. If it is essential that Rheumox be given to a patient already taking an oral anticoagulant, this should not be done until the dose of the anti-coagulant has been reduced to a very low level.

Rheumox can then be introduced and the dose of the anticoagulant increased until the required effect is produced. Pre-thrombin determinations should be carried out daily through out this procedure. Rheumox should not be given to patients with active peptic ulceration. Patients with a history of peptic ulcer have been treated safely with Rheumox but in this situation constant supervision is recommended as in some cases ulcers may recur. Data at present available does not indicate that interaction occurs with drugs such as salicylamides and oral hypoglycaemic agents but adjustment of the dosage of these drugs may be necessary in some instances. Specific renal function tests in man and long term administration in animals have not revealed any adverse effects of Rheumox on the kidney but since its clearance is predominantly renal it is not recommended for use in patients with severe renal dysfunction. Animal reproductive studies did not result in foetal abnormalities but safety in human pregnancy cannot be assumed and its use should be avoided in pregnancy whenever possible.

Skin rashes occur occasionally and a proportion of these are not allergic reactions. Oedema and gastro-intestinal upsets also occur occasionally. Gastro-intestinal bleeding has been reported as has angio-neurotic oedema.

## TREATMENT OF OVERDOSAGE

If overdosage should occur two specific courses of action are suggested on theoretical grounds. Firstly, since Rheumox is poorly soluble in gastric juices, stomach lavage should recover any gastric residue of the drug, provided of course that it is done early enough. Secondly, since Rheumox is predominantly excreted unchanged by the kidney, forced alkaline diuresis is theoretically indicated.

## PHARMACEUTICAL PRECAUTIONS

Protect from light.

## LEGAL CATEGORY

POM.

## PACKAGE QUANTITIES

Rheumox is supplied in amber glass bottles of 100 and 500 capsules.

## BASIC NHS PRICE

100 capsules — £5.88

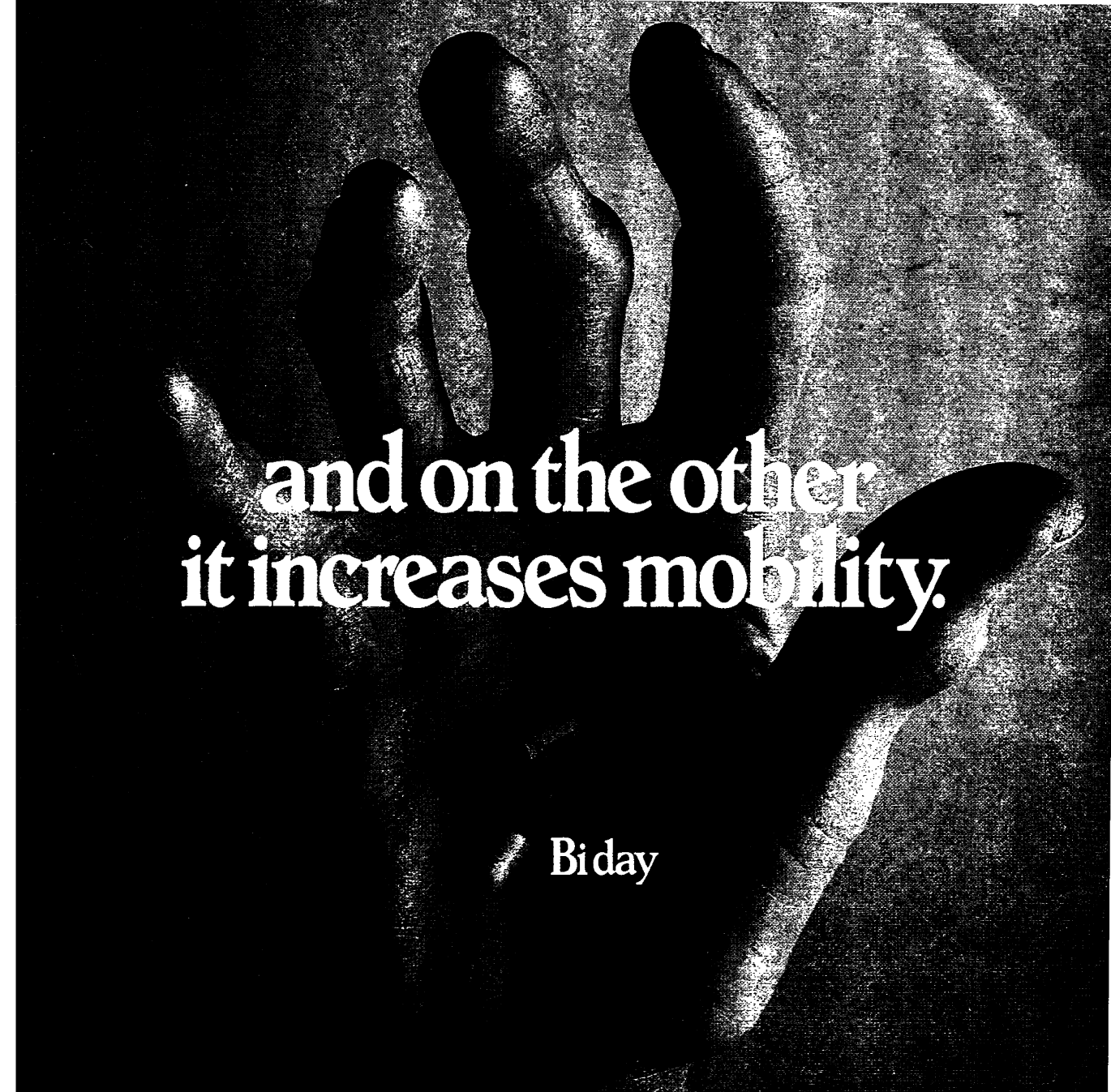
## PRODUCT LICENCE NUMBER

0100 0007

## REFERENCES

1. Curamed Res Opin (1976) 4:57.
2. Curamed Res Opin (1976) 4:63.





and on the other  
it increases mobility.

Bi day

Rheumox is the effective treatment for osteoarthritis, now with the added convenience of a b.d. dosage.

The combined analgesic and anti-inflammatory action of Rheumox provides overall relief throughout the day and, equally important, the night.

Clinical trials have proved that Rheumox gives effective pain relief with a marked improvement in mobility<sup>1</sup> and that it is subjectively preferred by a significant proportion of patients<sup>2</sup>.

**Rheumox<sup>®</sup>**  
AZAPROPAZONE  
**two b.d. in**  
**osteoarthritis**

AH ROBINS Company Ltd., Redkirk Way, Horsham, West Sussex

Applications are invited for a geographical full-time position in the Department of Internal Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba and the Section of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, Health Sciences Centre.

In addition to qualifications in the field of clinical or investigative Allergy/Immunology and Rheumatology/Immunology, applicants should have the ability to teach and conduct research.

Salary and rank commensurate with qualifications. Canadian citizens landed immigrants and others eligible for employment in Canada at the time of application are especially encouraged to apply.

Apply including curriculum vitae and names of three referees to:

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Section of Allergy and Clinical Immunology,  
C 319, Health Sciences Centre,  
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## Drugs and Disease

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## RHEUMATOLOGY AT THE HAMMERSMITH

28 - 30 May 1980

This three-day course in advanced rheumatology will consist of seminars, case presentations and lectures on the investigation and treatment of the rheumatic and connective tissue diseases.

Course organiser: Dr G R V Hughes

Course fee: £75 (including catering)

Application forms may be obtained from:  
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Hammersmith Hospital  
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London  
W12 0HS

Telephone: 01-743 2030 ext 351

A preliminary study reported at the IXth European Congress of Rheumatology at Wiesbaden<sup>1</sup> indicates that there may be an important addition to that select group of drugs which can actually alter the disease profile of rheumatoid arthritis. This agent is Flenac, already known for its analgesic and anti-inflammatory properties, but now also shown to exhibit anti-rheumatoid effects comparable with those of D-penicillamine.

# anti-rheumatoid effects demonstrated in recent study

The report described a single-blind trial, conducted in two British hospital centres, comparing the effects of Flenac, D-penicillamine and placebo in three groups of patients (47 in all) with severe rheumatoid disease. All patients were maintained on their existing anti-inflammatory/analgesic treatment throughout the study.

Clinical and laboratory parameters of disease activity were assessed three, four and six months after treatment began.

Flenac significantly improved all clinical parameters of disease activity – the duration of early morning stiffness was reduced and severity of pain decreased, joint size, grip strength and articular index all improved.

Laboratory parameters of rheumatoid activity – E.S.R., C-reactive protein and immunoglobulins – all showed decreases. In seven out of the eight seropositive

patients in the Flenac group a fall in rheumatoid factor titre was observed during the trial.

In the context of this preliminary study, Flenac was comparable with, or superior to, D-penicillamine in the majority of measured parameters. In contrast, 13 of the 15 patients on placebo had to be

withdrawn from the trial, 12 of them because of lack of effect.

The total number of side-effects reported in the Flenac group (7) was not significantly different from that reported in the placebo group (5), whilst a total of 18 side-effects was reported in the group receiving D-penicillamine.

Changes in clinical and laboratory parameters during therapy

	Flenac			D-penicillamine		
	after 3 months	after 4 months	after 6 months	after 3 months	after 4 months	after 6 months
Early morning stiffness (minutes)	-25	-36*	-37*	+20	-26	-60**
Articular index	-3.8	-7.9	-9.2*	-1.6	-1.9	-0.9
Ring size	-6	-14**	-18**	-3	-6	-16**
Grip strength (mm Hg)	+20	+58	+68*	+2	+23	+37
Pain – visual analogue scale	-13	-22**	-35**	-1	-6	-14
C-reactive protein (mg 100ml <sup>-1</sup> )	-0.02	-1.7*	-1.6*	+1.3	-0.04	-0.5
ESR (mm/hr <sup>-1</sup> )	-8	-18**	-9	-18**	-13*	-20*
IgM (mg 100ml <sup>-1</sup> )	-30*	-12	-15	-8	-4	+3
IgG (mg 100ml <sup>-1</sup> )	-32*	-300*	-240**	+179	-62	+80

\*significance p < 0.05

\*\*significance p < 0.01

**FLENAC**<sup>®</sup>  
fenclofenac

**analgesic, anti-inflammatory  
and now shown to exert  
demonstrable anti-rheumatoid effects**

**Presentation** Tablets of 300mg fenclofenac.

**Indications** Chronic and sub-acute rheumatological conditions such as osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, ankylosing spondylitis.

**Dosage and administration** Adults: 600-1200mg (2-4 tablets) daily, in divided doses (morning and night) with or after food. Flenac is not recommended for children.

**Contra-Indications** Active peptic ulceration or gastric bleeding.

**Warnings** Flenac should not at present be prescribed for children.

or for pregnant or lactating women. Flenac should not be co-administered with anti-coagulants. Care should be taken when treating patients with known renal or hepatic dysfunction, eczema, asthma, or sensitivity to other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.

**Note** Flenac interferes with thyroid function tests.

**Side effects** Gastro-intestinal symptoms sufficient to require discontinuing treatment are rare. Rash has occurred but has resolved shortly after withdrawal of the drug.

**N.H.S. Price** £11.24 pack of 100.

<sup>1</sup> Paper presented at IXth European Congress of Rheumatology, Wiesbaden, Germany, Sept. 1979.

Additional information is available from:  
Reckitt & Colman, Pharmaceutical Division, Hull HUB 7/DS  
Tel: 0482 26151  
Distributors in Republic of Ireland: Reckitts (Ireland) Ltd.,  
Dublin 12. Flenac is a registered trade mark.  
PL 44/0060 Irish PA2/13.1.





# Arthritis

- ★ 24 hour cover
- ★ Highly effective
- ★ Low level of side effects

2 capsules at night

# Lederfen<sup>\*</sup>

fenbufen



#### Prescribing Information

**Presentation** 300 mg Capsules Dark blue capsules each containing 300 mg of fenbufen and printed 'Lederfen 300 mg' on both the cap and body. **Uses** Lederfen is a potent anti-stiffness, anti-inflammatory, and analgesic agent indicated for the symptomatic treatment of rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis. **Dosage and Administration Adults** 2 or 3 capsules (600 mg) daily in single or divided doses. Many patients can be adequately controlled with a daily dosage of 2 capsules (600 mg) taken at night, whereas some may require an extra capsule in the morning. Total daily dosage should not exceed 600 mg in a single dose or 900 mg in divided doses. **Children** Not recommended for administration to children under the age of 14. **Contra-indications, Warnings, etc.** **Contra-indications:** hypersensitivity to fenbufen, and anti-inflammatory drugs of aspirin. **Precautions:** Lederfen should be used with great caution in patients with a history of peptic ulceration, ulcerative colitis, and/or where this being essential in pregnant and nursing women. **Warnings and Adverse Effects:** Adverse effects may include gastrointestinal intolerance. Other reactions may include infrequently, including skin rash, dizziness, drowsiness and headache. Skin pruritus, diarrhoea, and flatulence, haemoptysis and haematuria, as well as a slight increase in

prothrombin time and a slight rise have occasionally been recorded. Transient elevations in liver function tests have occurred in some patients. **Drug interactions:** When single doses of Aspirin 900 mg and Lederfen 600 mg are administered together, serum concentrations of Lederfen and its metabolites are reduced by 10%–20%. Concurrent use of aspirin may reduce the analgesic dosage of Lederfen. Lederfen is strong protein binding. Although no clinically significant interactions have been noted as yet, interactions should be a priority possibility. **Overdosage:** There is no experience with overdosage; consequently, the signs, symptoms and treatment have not been defined. There is no specific antidote. **Pharmaceutical Precautions:** Store at a temperature not exceeding 15°C in the original container. Keep children's access. **Legal Category: POM. Package Quantities:** Bottle of 100. Base Unit Cost £16.94 per 100 capsules. **Further Information:** Lederfen 300 mg capsules are available in 14 day and 28 day packs. **Further Information:** Lederfen 300 mg capsules. Maximum metabolites are detected 48 hours after oral administration. Single oral doses given at night will therefore provide adequate plasma levels to provide symptomatic relief throughout the night. **Product Licence Number** 0095/0047.

Further information is available on request from the manufacturer.



Lederle Laboratories, a division of Cyanamid of Great Britain Limited  
Fareham Road, Gosport, Hants PO13 0AS Tel: (0329) 236131.

\*TRADE MARK



**Presentation** MERALEN is available in hard gelatin capsules containing 100 mg of the active ingredient flufenamic acid BP.

**Composition** Each 100 mg capsule contains 100 mg of flufenamic acid BP.

**Indications** MERALEN is indicated for the relief of pain and inflammation in rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis and ankylosing spondylitis.

**Dosage and administration** The usual dosage is 100 mg three or four times a day after meals with water. The maximum daily dose should not exceed 400 mg. The capsules should be swallowed whole with water. Patients should be advised to take the capsules with food to reduce the risk of gastric irritation. Patients should be advised to avoid alcohol and other drugs which may interact with MERALEN.

**Contra-indications, warnings, etc.** MERALEN is contra-indicated in patients with a known hypersensitivity to flufenamic acid or any of the excipients. It should be used with caution in patients with a history of peptic ulceration, gastric ulceration, or other gastrointestinal disorders.

**Precautions** Patients should be advised to avoid alcohol and other drugs which may interact with MERALEN. Patients should be advised to avoid driving or operating machinery if they experience dizziness or drowsiness.

**Warnings and Adverse Effects** The most common side effects are headache, dizziness, drowsiness, and nausea. Other side effects include constipation, dry mouth, and allergic reactions.

**Interactions** MERALEN may interact with other drugs, particularly those which affect the central nervous system. Patients should be advised to avoid alcohol and other drugs which may interact with MERALEN.

**Pharmacokinetics** MERALEN is rapidly absorbed and reaches its maximum plasma concentration within 1-2 hours. It is metabolized in the liver and excreted in the urine.

**Pharmacodynamics** MERALEN acts as a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) by inhibiting the cyclooxygenase enzyme, which is involved in the synthesis of prostaglandins.

**Pharmacology** MERALEN has analgesic, anti-inflammatory, and antipyretic properties. It is effective in the treatment of pain and inflammation in rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, and ankylosing spondylitis.

**Pharmaceutical precautions** MERALEN capsules should be stored in a cool, dry place, protected from light. The capsules should be kept in their original packaging until use.

**Legal category** MERALEN is a Schedule 2 drug under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1977.

**Package Quantities** MERALEN is available in 100 mg capsules in packs of 10, 20, 30, 60, and 120 capsules.

**Basic NHS cost** The basic NHS cost of MERALEN is £1.50 per 100 mg capsule.

**Product Licence No.** The product licence number for MERALEN is PL 18962/01/001.

**References** For further information on MERALEN, please refer to the product information leaflet or contact your local pharmacist.

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## Anti-inflammatory Analgesic Capsules Flufenamic Acid BP

# the valid alternative in arthritis

You and your arthritic patient will have experienced the time-consuming search through the available non-steroidal armamentarium for the drug "... which combines optimal effectiveness and absence of adverse effects."<sup>1</sup>

**MERALEN** may just be the right drug for many of your arthritic patients.

**MERALEN** belongs to the fenamates, totally unrelated to the propionic acid derivatives, salicylates and phenyl-pyrazolone derivatives.

"Flufenamic acid (**MERALEN**) appears to be useful as an anti-rheumatic drug, especially in rheumatoid and osteo-arthritis, where long-standing pain and joint inflammatory processes were still active. It gives relief and even enhances mobility where joint pathology incapacitates movement!"<sup>2</sup>

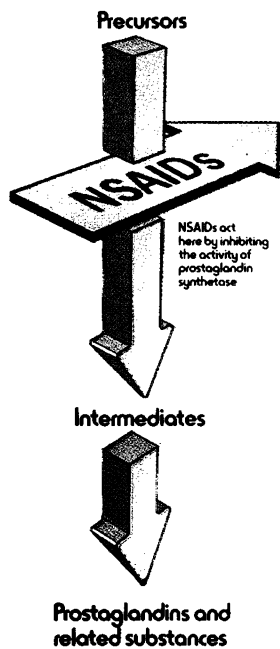
# Arthritis

When a nonsteroidal  
anti-inflammatory agent  
is indicated...

...a potent  
anti-prostaglandin  
must be considered  
as first line treatment

# Froben is a potent antiprostaglandin

It is now accepted that the analgesic and anti-inflammatory effect of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) is due mainly to their inhibitory action on prostaglandin synthetase activity. It has also been well demonstrated that the level of antiprostaglandin activity exhibited by these drugs correlates closely with their clinical analgesic and anti-inflammatory potency.



Since the antiprostaglandin activity of a drug bears a relationship to its clinical potency, the higher the level of this activity, the more likely it is that the drug will be effective in reducing pain and inflammation.

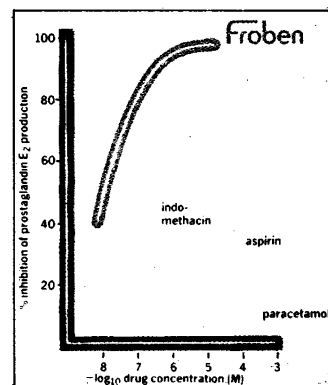
"...the study *in vitro* of the inhibitory effect of a drug on prostaglandin synthetase activity may be used to predict, in most cases, its anti-inflammatory activity..."<sup>1</sup>

**A potent antiprostaglandin must be considered as first line treatment in arthritis.**

"Concurrent studies in our department have shown flurbiprofen to be one of the most powerful of the anti-inflammatory drugs in inhibiting the action of prostaglandin synthetase from rheumatoid synovium..."<sup>2</sup>

**Froben is a potent antiprostaglandin.**

In the treatment of osteoarthritis, rheumatoid disease and ankylosing spondylitis, Froben provides the powerful analgesic and anti-inflammatory action needed to effectively relieve the pain and stiffness of arthritis and so provide a progressive improvement in the mobility of the arthritic patient.



## Prescribing Information

**Presentation:** Sugar-coated tablets, each containing either 50mg or 100mg of flurbiprofen

**Uses:** Froben is indicated in the treatment of rheumatoid disease, osteoarthritis and ankylosing spondylitis.

**Dosage:** 150mg to 200mg daily in 3 or 4 divided doses. In patients with severe symptoms or disease of recent origin, or during acute exacerbations, the total daily dose may be increased to 300mg in divided doses.

**Contra-indications, Warnings etc:** Froben should not be given to patients with peptic ulceration. Care should be taken when administering the drug to patients with asthma or who have experienced bronchospasm with other anti-inflammatory or analgesic agents. The safety of Froben during pregnancy or lactation has not been established. In animal experiments, no teratogenic effects were demonstrated but parturition was delayed and prolonged. Side-effects: dyspepsia, heartburn and headache are the commonest encountered. Occasional skin rashes have been reported. Treatment of overdosage: gastric lavage and, if necessary, correction of serum electrolytes. There is no specific antidote.

**Basic NHS Price:** 50mg tablets, 100 £8.24, 100mg tablets, 100 £15.65

**Product Licence No:** 50mg tablets, PL0014 0167, 100mg tablets, PL0014 0168

**References:** 1. Garcia-Rafanell, J. and Forn, J. *Arzneim-Forsch.* Drug Res. 1979, 29, 630.  
2. Bacon, P.A., *et al.* *Curr. Med. Res. Opin.* 1975, 3, Suppl. 4, 20.

# Froben

flurbiprofen

**Arthritis: tomorrow  
there may be a cure.  
Today, there's Froben.**