# NSAID Selection: Consideration of Cardiovascular & Gastrointestinal Risk

**Gwent Partnership Medicines & Therapeutics Committee** - June 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low risk of GI complications</th>
<th>High risk of GI complications ¹</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No risk of cardiovascular disease &amp; NOT on antiplatelet agent (e.g. low dose aspirin)</td>
<td>Use non-selective NSAID</td>
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<tr>
<td>Risk factors for cardiovascular disease ³ &amp; NOT on antiplatelet agent (e.g. low dose aspirin)</td>
<td>Use non-selective NSAID</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Existing cardiovascular disease AND/OR on antiplatelet agent (e.g. low dose aspirin)</td>
<td>Use non-selective NSAID PLUS a gastroprotective agent ⁴ if on aspirin or clopidogrel</td>
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</table>

**Other potential NSAID adverse effects should also be considered**
ALL NSAID USE SHOULD BE AT THE LOWEST EFFECTIVE DOSE FOR THE SHORTEST NECESSARY PERIOD
ALL NSAIDs MAY REDUCE THE EFFECT OF DIURETICS & ANTIHYPERTENSIVE MEDICINAL PRODUCTS

¹ Age of 65 years and over or...
Previous history of gastroduodenal ulcer, GI bleeding/perforation or...
Concomitant use of medication known to increase the likelihood of upper GI adverse events (e.g. steroids & anticoagulants) or...
Requirement for prolonged use of maximum recommended doses of standard NSAIDs.

² As covered by NICE TA27 of July 2001 - Meloxicam or Etodolac (initially), with Celecoxib (200mg daily) as a second line.

³ Those with a 10 year CHD risk of >15% (or CVS risk >20%).

⁴ Omeprazole 20mg daily (28 days = £12.75) or misoprostol 200micrograms two to four times daily (28 days = £9.36 to £18.72)
Cost of 28 days Celecoxib @ 100mg BD = £21.55, Meloxicam @ 7.5mg OD = £9.05, @ 15mg OD = 12.58 & Etodolac @ 600mg OD = £14.47.