

**Table 6. First-Line Abortives for Migraine: Non-Triptans**

Drug Name (Brand)	FDA Approved for Migraines	Formulations	Dosage	Comments
<b>Acetaminophen-containing Products</b>				
<b>Excedrin Migraine</b>	Yes	Oral tablet	Usual dose: 1-2 tablets every 3 h; maximum of 4 tablets/d  Tablets contain 250 mg aspirin, 65 mg caffeine, and 250 mg acetaminophen	Useful OTC for patients with mild or moderate migraines. Anxiety from the caffeine and nausea from the aspirin are common.  Rebound headache may occur with overuse; 4 tablets/d (but not on a daily basis) should be maximum.  Patients need to be educated about not exceeding acetaminophen's upper daily limits.
<b>Prodrin</b>	Yes	Oral tablet	Usual dose: 1 tablet every 2-3 h; limit to 2-3 doses/d  Tablets contain 20 mg caffeine, 65 mg isometheptene, and 325 mg acetaminophen	Nonsedating and nonaddictive. Caffeine may cause nervousness or a faster heartbeat; limit dosing to 2-3 times per day.  Patients with insomnia should not use Prodrin after 3 PM. Patients with hypertension should use with caution, and only if blood pressure is controlled.  If not available, generic Midrin, which has a sedative and no caffeine, usually is used, along with additional caffeine.  Patients need to be educated about not exceeding acetaminophen's upper daily limits.
<b>NSAIDs</b>				
<b>Diclofenac potassium powder (Cambia)</b>	Yes	Packets dissolved in water  Available in boxes of 3 or 9 packets	50-mg packet every 2-4 h, maximum dose 150 mg/d	Excellent new migraine abortive. Useful in younger patients and in older individuals who can tolerate NSAIDs. Typical side effects of NSAIDs, primarily GI, may occur.  May be combined with triptans; caffeine may be added to increase efficacy.
<b>Ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin, generic)</b>	No	Liquid and oral tablet/capsule	400-800 mg every 3 h; maximum dose 2,400 mg/d	Available OTC and approved for children; occasionally useful in treating menstrual migraine. GI side effects are common.  May be used with triptans; caffeine increases efficacy.
<b>Naproxen (Anaprox, Aleve, generic)</b>	No	Oral tablet and capsule	220 mg; usual dose, 500 mg, repeated in 1 h and again in 3-4 h; maximum dose 1,000 mg/d	Useful in younger patients; occasionally helpful for menstrual migraine. Nonsedating, but patients frequently report GI upset. First/usual dose is taken with food or a Tums; may be repeated in 1 h if no severe nausea is present, and again in 3-4 h.  May be used with triptans; caffeine increases efficacy.

GI, gastrointestinal; NSAID, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug; OTC, over the counter