

Table 4-6: Oral Analgesics for Mild to Moderate Pain in HIV/AIDS

Analgesic (by class)	Starting Dose (MG)	Duration (HRS)	Plasma Half-Life (HRS)	COMMENTS
Acetaminophen	650	4-6	4-6	May be hepatotoxic if exceeds recommended doses
Nonsteroidal (NSAIDs)				
Aspirin	650	4-6	4-6	Standard of comparison among non-opioid analgesics.
Ibuprofen	400-600	—	—	Like aspirin, can inhibit platelet function.
Choline magnesium trisalicylate	700-1500	—	—	Essentially no hematologic or gastrointestinal side effects.
Weaker opioids				
Codeine	32-65	3-4	—	Metabolized to morphine, often used to suppress cough in patients at risk of pulmonary bleed.
Oxycodone	5-10	3-4	—	Available as a single agent and in combination with aspirin or acetaminophen.
Propoxyphene	65-130	4-6	—	Toxic metabolite norpropoxy accumulates with repeated dosing.