closure of fetal ductus arteriosus *in utero* and possibly persistent pulmonary hypertension of the newborn); onset of labour may be delayed and duration may be increased.

- With topical use Patient packs for topical preparations carry a warning to avoid during pregnancy.

BREAST FEEDING

- With systemic use Use with caution during breast-feeding. Amount in milk too small to be harmful.
- With topical use Patient packs for topical preparations carry a warning to avoid during breast-feeding.

HEPATIC IMPAIRMENT

- With systemic use Manufacturer advises caution in mild to moderate impairment; avoid in severe impairment.

RENAL IMPAIRMENT

- With systemic use Avoid if possible or use with caution. Avoid in severe impairment.
- With intravenous use Avoid intravenous use if serum creatinine greater than 160 micromol/litre. Contra-indicated in moderate or severe renal impairment.

Dose adjustments ▸ With systemic use The lowest effective dose should be used for the shortest possible duration.

Monitoring ▸ With systemic use In renal impairment monitor renal function; sodium and water retention may occur and renal function may deteriorate, possibly leading to renal failure.

DIRECTIONS FOR ADMINISTRATION

- With intravenous use For *intravenous infusion* (*Voltarol*®), give continuously or intermittently in Glucose 5% or Sodium chloride 0.9%. Dilute 75 mg with 100–500 mL infusion fluid (previously buffered with 0.5 mL sodium bicarbonate 8.4% solution *or* with 1 mL sodium bicarbonate 4.2% solution). For intermittent infusion give 25–50 mg over 15–60 minutes or 75 mg over 30–120 minutes. For continuous infusion give at a rate of 5 mg/hour.
- With topical use For topical preparations, apply with gentle massage only.

PRESCRIBING AND DISPENSING INFORMATION *Voltarol*® dispersible tablets are more suitable for **short-term** use in acute conditions for which treatment required for no more than 3 months (no information on use beyond 3 months).

PATIENT AND CARER ADVICE For topical preparations, patients and their carers should be advised to wash hands immediately after use. Photosensitivity Patients should be advised against excessive exposure to sunlight of area treated in order to avoid possibility of photosensitivity.

PROFESSION SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Dental practitioners' formulary Diclofenac Sodium Tablets may be prescribed.

EXCEPTIONS TO LEGAL CATEGORY

- With topical use for relief of pain in musculoskeletal conditions and adjunctive treatment in knee or hand osteoarthritis Various pack sizes of gel preparations may be available on sale to the public.

MEDICINAL FORMS There can be variation in the licensing of different medicines containing the same drug. Forms available from special-order manufacturers include: dispersible tablet, oral suspension, oral solution

Gastro-resistant tablet

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 5, 25

- **Diclofenac sodium (Non-proprietary)**
  Diclofenac sodium 25 mg Diclofenac sodium 25mg gastro-resistant tablets | 28 tablet PoM £8.99 DT = £1.69 | 84 tablet PoM £1.50-£26.97
  Diclofenac sodium 50 mg Diclofenac sodium 50mg gastro-resistant tablets | 28 tablet PoM £4.97 DT = £1.63 | 84 tablet PoM £2.48-£15.00
- **Fenactol** (Dexcel-Pharma Ltd)
  Diclofenac sodium 50 mg Fenactol 50mg gastro-resistant tablets | 100 tablet PoM £3.70

Suppository

- **Econac** (Advanz Pharma)
  Diclofenac sodium 100 mg Econac 100mg suppositories | 10 suppository PoM £3.04 DT = £3.64
- **Voltarol** (Novartis Pharmaceuticals UK Ltd)
  Diclofenac sodium 12.5 mg Voltarol 12.5mg suppositories | 10 suppository PoM £0.70 DT = £0.70
  Diclofenac sodium 25 mg Voltarol 25mg suppositories | 10 suppository PoM £1.24 DT = £1.24
  Diclofenac sodium 50 mg Voltarol 50mg suppositories | 10 suppository PoM £2.04 DT = £2.04
  Diclofenac sodium 100 mg Voltarol 100mg suppositories | 10 suppository PoM £3.64 DT = £3.64

Solution for injection

EXCIPIENTS: May contain Benzyl alcohol, propylene glycol

- **Voltarol** (Novartis Pharmaceuticals UK Ltd)
  Diclofenac sodium 25 mg per 1 ml Voltarol 75mg/3ml solution for injection ampoules | 10 ampoule PoM £9.91 DT = £9.91

Modified-release capsule

CAUTIONARY AND ADVISORY LABELS 21(does not apply to Motifene® 75 mg), 25

EXCIPIENTS: May contain Propylene glycol

- **Diclomax Retard** (Galen Ltd)
  Diclofenac sodium 100 mg Diclomax Retard 100mg capsules | 28 capsule PoM £8.20 DT = £8.20
- **Diclomax SR** (Galen Ltd)
  Diclofenac sodium 75 mg Diclomax SR 75mg capsules | 56 capsule PoM £11.40 DT = £11.40
- **Motifene** (Daiichi Sankyo UK Ltd)
  Diclofenac sodium 75 mg Motifene 75mg modified-release capsules | 56 capsule PoM £8.00 DT = £8.00

Gel

- **Voltarol Emulgel** (GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare)
  Diclofenac diethylammonium 11.6 mg per 1 gram Voltarol 1.16% Emulgel | 100 gram P £4.63 DT = £4.63

Diclofenac sodium with misoprostol

20-Apr-2020

The properties listed below are those particular to the combination only. For the properties of the components please consider, diclofenac sodium p. 1198, misoprostol p. 81.

INDICATIONS AND DOSE

ARTHROTEC® 50/200

Prophylaxis against NSAID-induced gastroduodenal ulceration in patients requiring diclofenac for rheumatoid arthritis or osteoarthritis

▸ BY MOUTH

- Adult: 1 tablet 2–3 times a day, take with food

ARTHROTEC® 75/200

Prophylaxis against NSAID-induced gastroduodenal ulceration in patients requiring diclofenac for rheumatoid arthritis or osteoarthritis

▸ BY MOUTH

- Adult: 1 tablet twice daily, take with food

MISOFEN® 50/200

Prophylaxis against NSAID-induced gastroduodenal ulceration in patients requiring diclofenac for rheumatoid arthritis or osteoarthritis

▸ BY MOUTH

- Adult: 1 tablet 2–3 times a day, take with food

MISOFEN® 75/200

Prophylaxis against NSAID-induced gastroduodenal ulceration in patients requiring diclofenac for rheumatoid arthritis or osteoarthritis

▸ BY MOUTH

- Adult: 1 tablet twice daily, take with food

UNLICENSED USE The BNF recommends a higher starting dose of misoprostol for prophylaxis against NSAID-induced gastroduodenal ulceration than that provided by