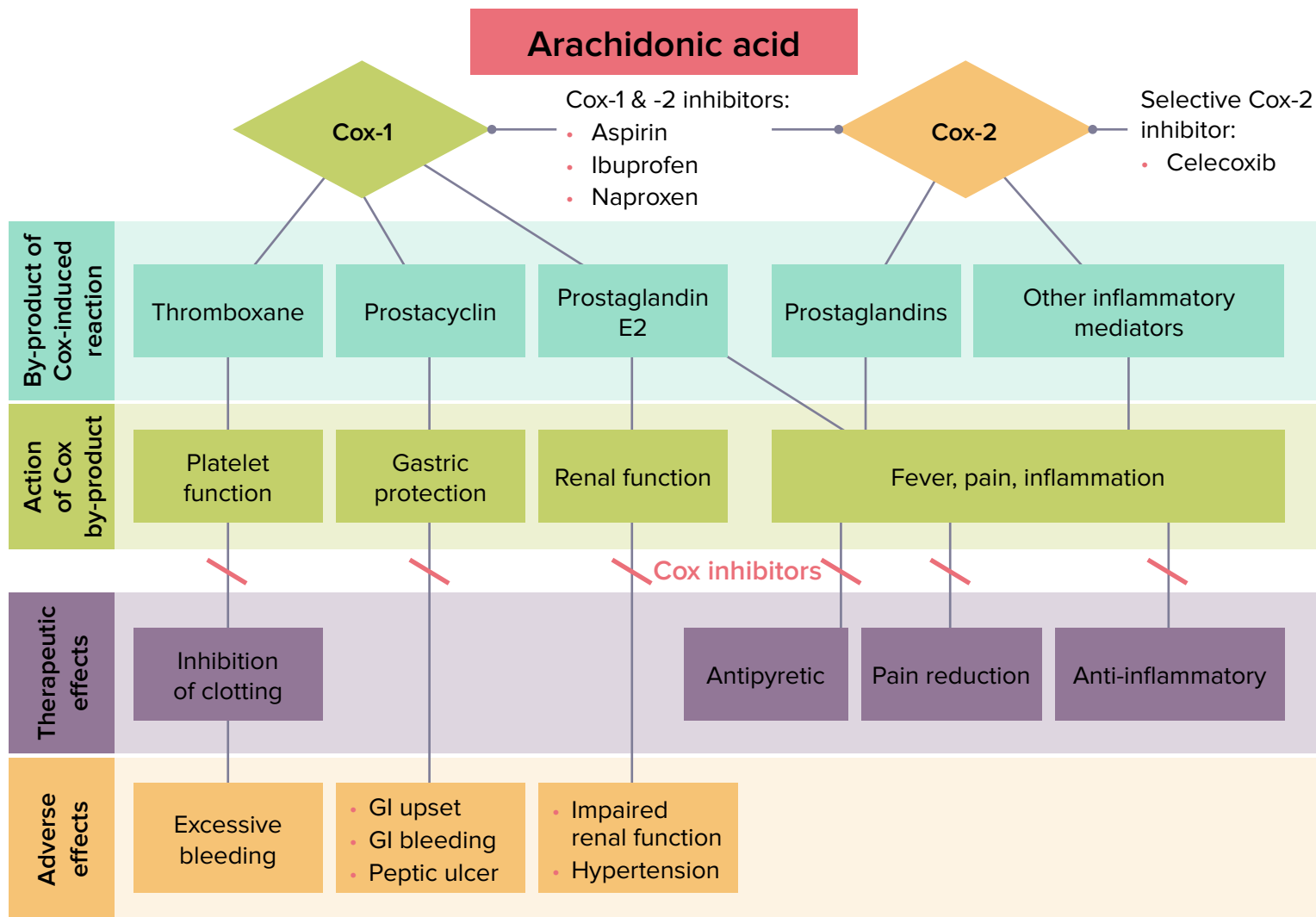


PAIN MANAGEMENT: NSAIDS



Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) inhibit cyclooxygenase (Cox), an enzyme that converts arachidonic acid into prostanoids and other compounds. There are two forms of cyclooxygenase: Cox-1 and Cox-2. The products of these enzymes' reactions act on tissues throughout the body, resulting in a variety of therapeutic effects, as well as possible adverse effects.



Nursing considerations

- Carefully review clients' medical history and medication list for possible contraindications.
- Be alert to allergy history: avoid all NSAIDs in clients with allergy to any medication in the class.
- Educate clients regarding possible adverse effects of NSAIDs and signs/symptoms to report.
- Monitor BUN/creatinine and creatinine clearance carefully in clients at risk of renal compromise.
- Advise clients to discontinue NSAID use at least one week before scheduled surgery. Use teach-back to verify understanding.

NOTES

