

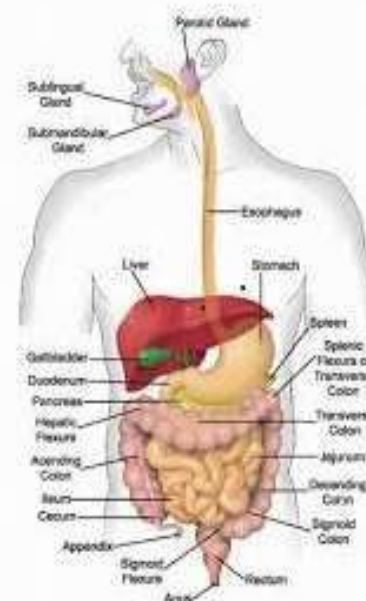


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# Gastrointestinal Agents



# ACIDIFYING AGENTS/ACIDIFIERS

These are the inorganic chemical substances that either produce or increase acids.

These chemicals increase the level of acid in the stomach when ingested, thereby decreasing the stomach PH.

- ❖ **Gastric acidifiers** : These are the drugs which are used to increase acidity of the stomach in patients suffering from achlorhydria or hypochlorhydria.
- ❖ **Urinary acidifiers** : These are the drugs which are used to remove acidic urine from the body or to maintain the PH of urine.
- ❖ **Systemic acidifiers** : These are the drugs which are able to neutralise alkaline body fluids, specially blood or to maintain the Ph of all parts of body.
- ❖ **Acid** : These are used as pharmaceutical aids in preparation of medicaments.



# HYDROCHLORIC ACID

**Molecular formula :** HCl

**Molecular wt. :** 36.46

**Synonyms :** Spirit of salt, Muriatic acid

**Preparation :**

It can be prepared by the action conc. Sulphuric acid on Sodium Chloride and passing the liberated Hydrogen Chloride through water.



**Properties:**

1. It is nearly colourless clear and fuming liquid.
2. It possesses pungent odour.
3. It is soluble with water and alcohol.
4. It is a strong acid and attacks metals, forming the hydrochlorides with the evolution of gas.

**Chemical properties :**

1. It reacts with sodium metal which results in the formation of sodium chloride and liberates hydrogen gas.



2. It is oxidised by strong oxidising agents liberating chlorine gas.



## Storage :

It is stored in well closed container of glass or other inert material at a temperature not exceeding 30 c.

## Uses :

1. It is used as a pharmaceutical aid or as an acidifying agents.
2. Used as gastric acidifiers when levels of hydrochloric acid in gastric juice are low.
3. Externally used as a solvent, catalyst in bais pharmaceuticals and as acidifiers.

**Dose :** 0.6- 8 ml

