



Alkalinizing agent

- Used in liquid preparations to provide alkaline medium for product stability
- Examples:
 - Potassium hydroxide
 - Sodium bicarbonate
 - Sodium carbonate
 - Sodium hydroxide

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Adsorbents

- An agent capable of holding other molecules onto its surface by physical or chemical (chemisorption) means.
- Examples
 - Activated charcoal

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Chelating agent

- Substance that forms stable water-soluble complexes (chelates) with metals; used in some liquid pharmaceuticals as stabilizers to complex heavy metals that might promote instability. In such use, they are also called sequestering agents
- Examples: Disodium EDTA

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Humectant

- Used to prevent drying of preparations, particularly ointments and creams
- Examples
 - Glycerin
 - Propylene glycol
 - Sorbitol

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Emulsifying Agents

- Used to promote and maintain dispersion of finely subdivided particles of liquid in a vehicle in which it is immiscible. End product may be a liquid emulsion or semisolid emulsion (e.g., a cream)
- Examples:
 - Acacia; Cetomacrogol Cetyl alcohol; Glyceryl monostearate; Sorbitan monooleate; Polyoxyethylene 50 stearate

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Surfactant (surface active agent)

- Substances that absorb to surfaces or interfaces to reduce surface or interfacial tension. May be used as wetting agents, detergents, or emulsifying agents
- Examples:
 - Polysorbate 80
 - Sodium lauryl sulfate
 - Sorbitan monopalmitate

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Suspending agent

- Viscosity-increasing agent used to reduce sedimentation rate of particles in a vehicle in which they are not soluble; (suspension)
- Examples:
 - Hydroxypropyl methylcellulose
 - Methylcellulose
 - Tragacanth
 - Veegum

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Tablet disintegrant

- Used in solid forms to promote disruption of the mass into smaller particles more readily dispersed or dissolved
- Examples:
 - Alginic acid
 - Calcium carbonate
 - Sodium starch glycolate
 - Starch
 - Croscarmellose

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Tablet direct compression excipients

- Used in direct compression tablet formulations
- Example:
 - Dibasic calcium phosphate (e.g., Datab)