

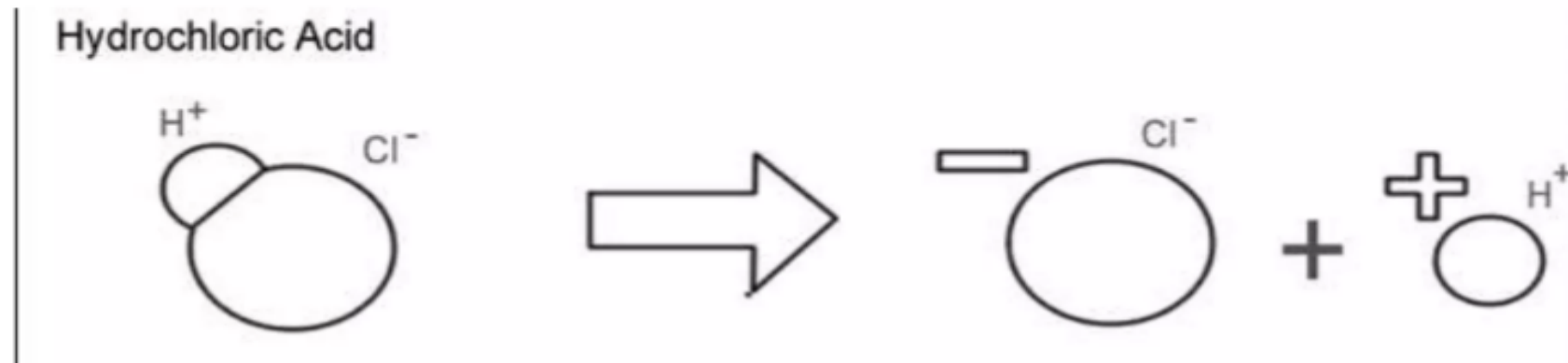
# Acids and Bases



- Refresher Overview
- Kimberly Westra DNP, MSN, APRN, CRNA

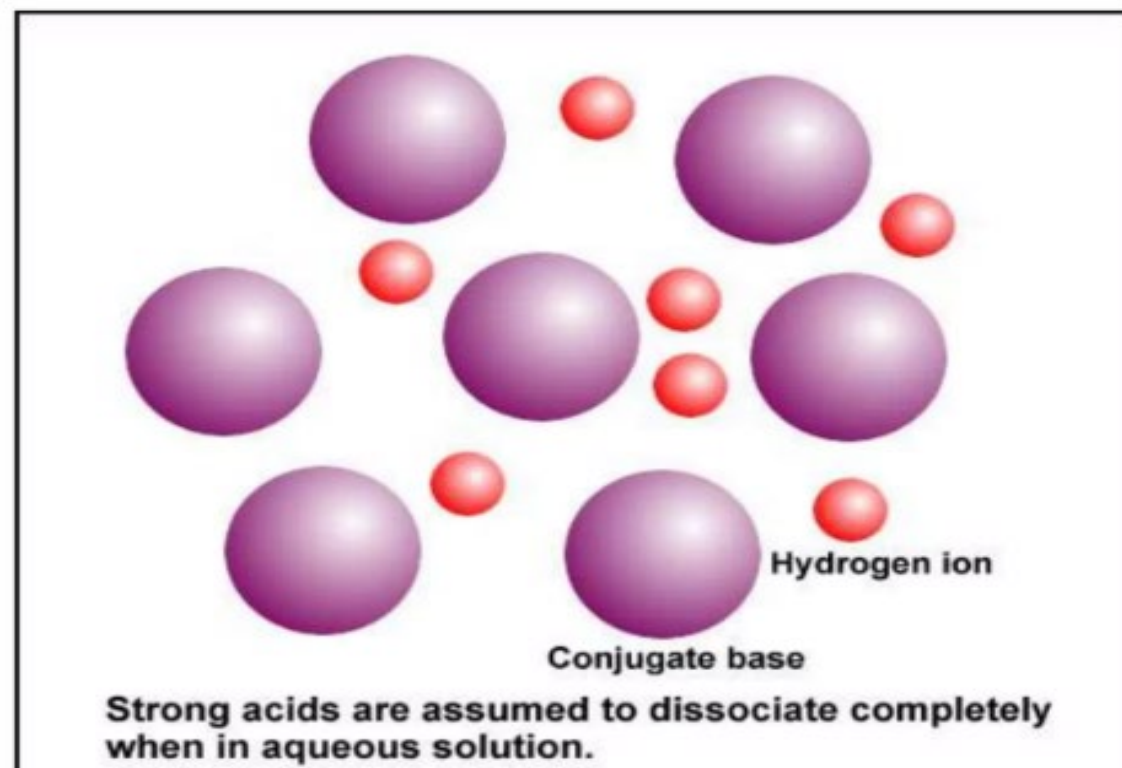
# Acids

- An **acid** is a substance that releases  $H^+$  ions in an aqueous solution
  - **Aqueous** means water
- Example: when hydrochloric acid is dissolved in water, the compound separates into chlorine ions ( $Cl^-$ ) and hydrogen ions ( $H^+$ )



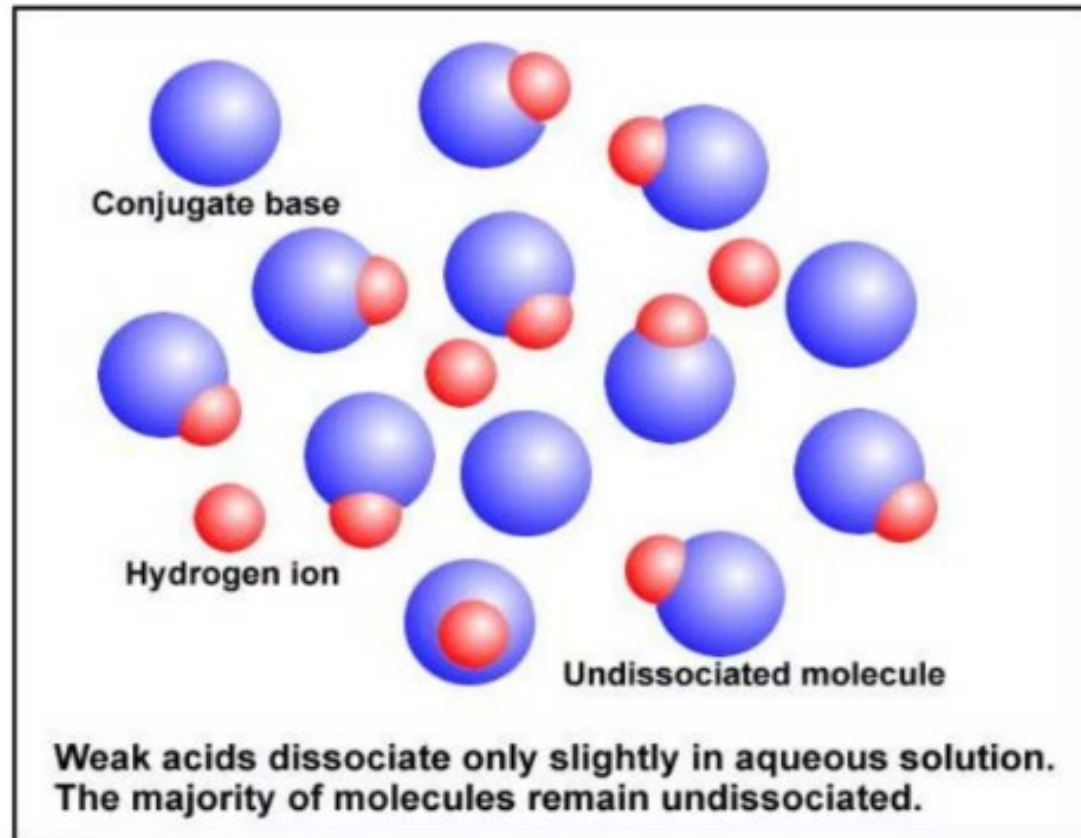
# Strong Acids

- A **strong acid** breaks down completely in water and gives off many  $H^+$  ions



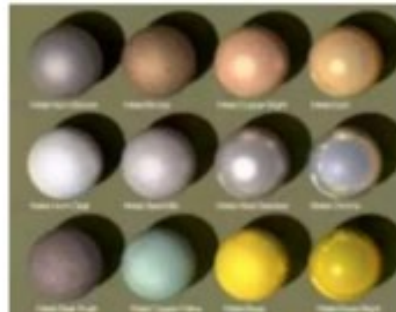
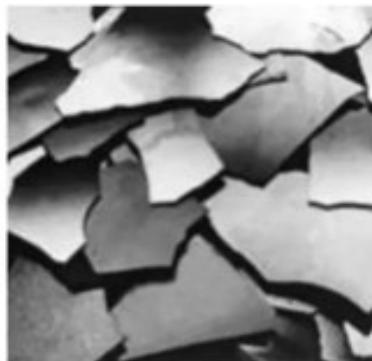
# Weak Acid

- A **weak acid** only partially breaks down. It gives off much less  $H^+$  than a strong acid.



# Characteristics of Acids

- Acids have a sour taste
- Acids react with metals & carbonates to produce gas
- Acids contain hydrogen



**H**

# Characteristics of Acids: Taste Sour

- Acids in foods taste sour and produce a burning or prickling feeling on the skin



# Characteristics of Acids

- Since tasting or touching an unknown chemical is ***extremely dangerous***, other methods are needed to tell whether a solution is an acid



# Characteristics of Acids: Reacts with Carbonate

3

- A safe way to test to see if a solution is an acid is to place a few drops on a compound that contains a carbonate ( $\text{CO}_3$ )
- Example: limestone is a rock that contains calcium carbonate ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ ) When an acid touches a piece of limestone, a reaction occurs that produces carbon dioxide gas





# Characteristics of Acids: Reacts with Metal

- Acids also reacts with most metals
- The reaction produces hydrogen gas, which you can see as bubbles



# Uses for ACIDS

- Sulphuric acid:
  - Detergents
  - Car batteries
- Ethanoic acid:
  - Vinegar to preserve food
  - Adhesives (glue)
- Hydrochloric Acid:
  - Cleaning metals
  - Leather processing

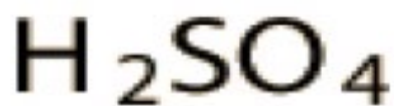
# Characteristics of Acids: Contain Hydrogen



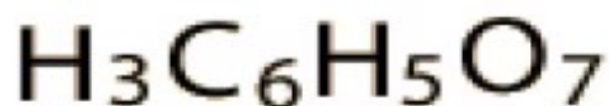
Hydrochloric acid



Acetic acid



Sulfuric acid



Citric acid



Nitric acid



Phosphoric acid



Carbonic acid



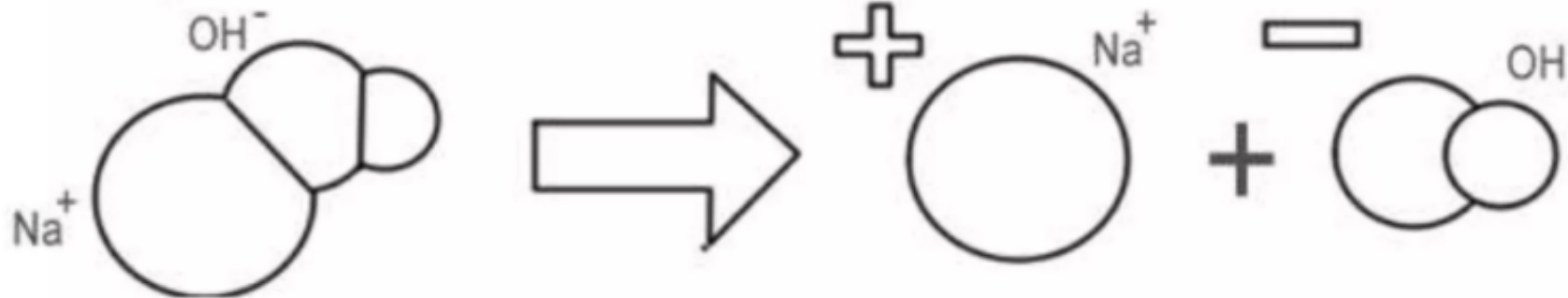
Oxalic acid

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# Bases

- A **base** is a substance that releases hydroxide ( $\text{OH}^-$ ) ions in an aqueous solution
- Example: When sodium hydroxide ( $\text{NaOH}$ ) is dissolved in water, the compound separates into sodium ions ( $\text{Na}^+$ ) and hydroxide ions ( $\text{OH}^-$ )

Sodium Hydroxide



# Characteristics of Bases

- Bases usually taste bitter
- Bases feel slippery
- Bases contain hydroxide ions ( $\text{OH}^-$ )

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## Characteristics of Bases: Taste Bitter

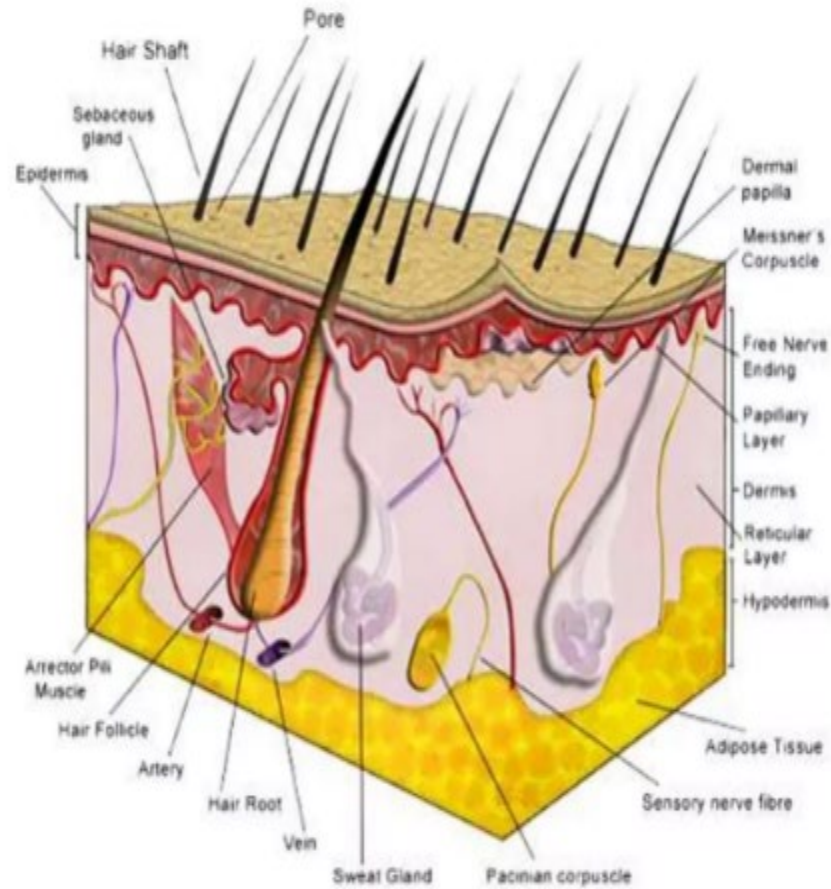
- Example: Baking soda



## Characteristics of Bases: Taste Bitter

- Mild bases in foods taste bitter and feel slippery, but as with acids, ***tasting and touching are not safe*** ways of testing whether a solution is a base
- In fact, some strong bases can burn the skin as badly as strong acids

- Bases feel soapy or slippery because they react with acid molecules in your skin called fatty acids



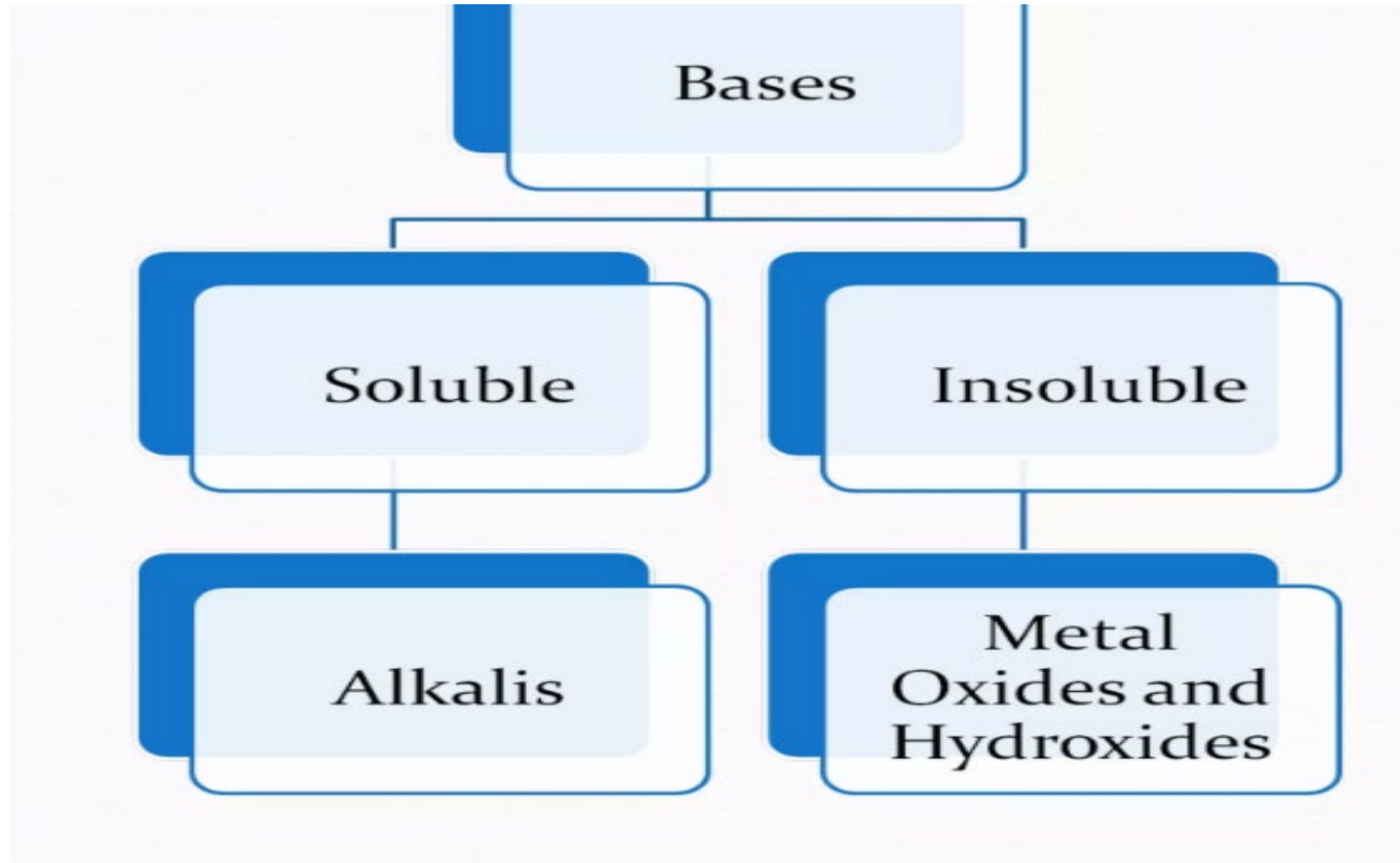


# Characteristics of Bases: Feel Slippery

- In fact, this is exactly how soap is made. Mixing base- usually sodium hydroxide – with fatty acids produces soap
- So when a base touches your skin, the combination of the base with your own fatty acids actually makes a small amount of soap



# Family of Bases



# Characteristics of Bases: Contain Sodium Hydroxide (OH<sup>-</sup>)

## Strong Bases

## The Formulae

Lithium hydroxide	LiOH
Sodium hydroxide	NaOH
Potassium hydroxide	KOH
Rubidium hydroxide	RbOH
Caesium hydroxide	CsOH
Barium hydroxide	Ba(OH) <sub>2</sub>
Calcium hydroxide	Ca(OH) <sub>2</sub>
Strontium hydroxide	Sr(OH) <sub>2</sub>

# Properties of Acids and Bases

ACIDS	BASES
taste <b>sour</b>	taste <b>bitter</b>
do not feel slippery	feel <b>slippery</b>
<b>pH &lt; 7</b>	<b>pH &gt; 7</b>
release hydrogen ( <b>H<sup>+</sup></b> ) ions in aqueous solution	release hydroxide ( <b>OH<sup>-</sup></b> ) ions in aqueous solution
<b>corrode metals</b>	do not corrode metals
<b>react</b> with metals to produce a compound and <b>hydrogen gas</b>	do not react with metals to produce a compound and hydrogen gas
turn litmus <b>red/pink</b>	turn litmus <b>blue</b>

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# Properties of Acids & Bases

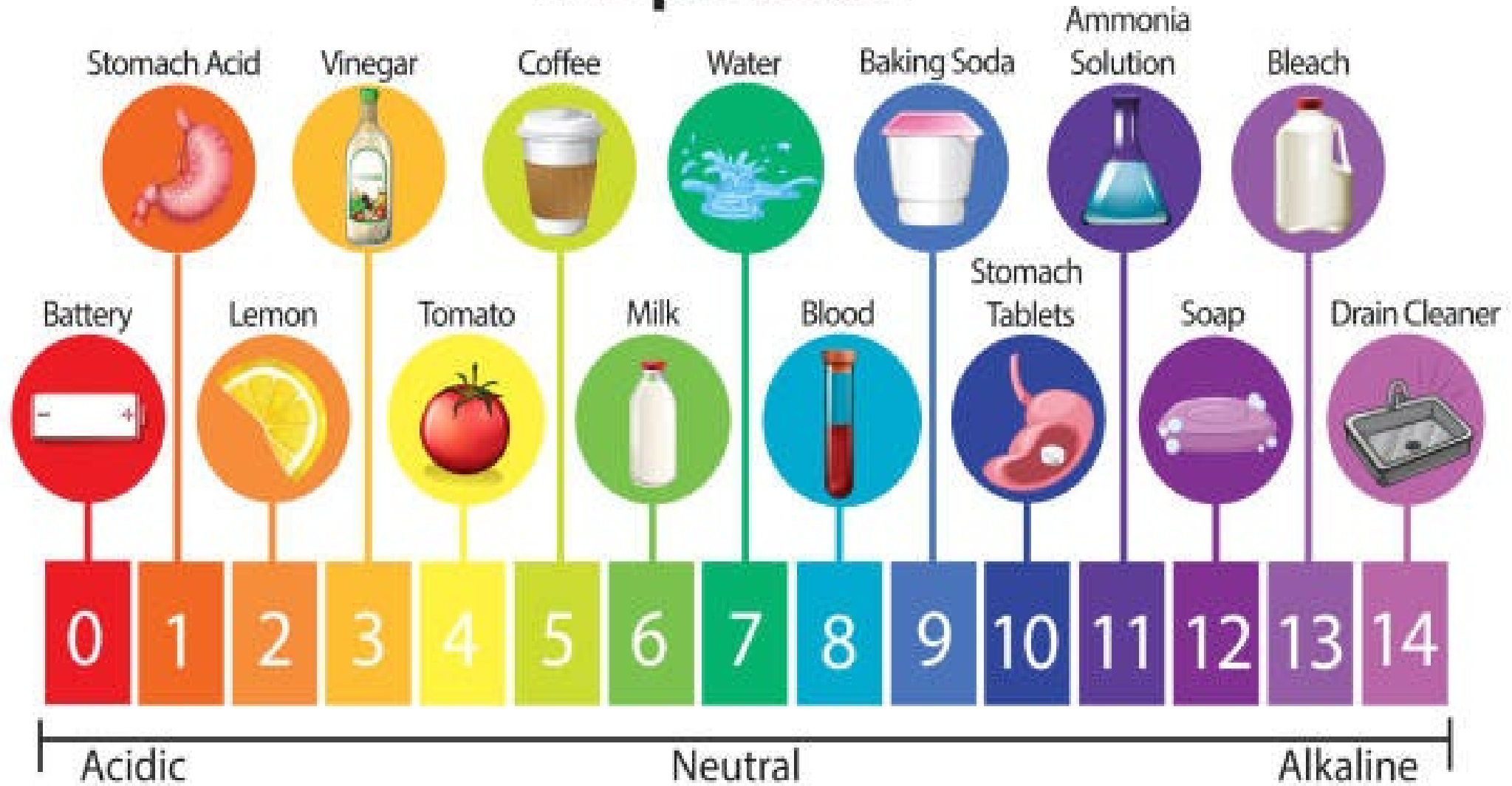
- Similarities between acids and bases
  - Dissolve in water
  - Conduct electricity in aqueous solution
  - Can irritate or burn skin



# Acid-Base Strength

- **pH** stands for “potential hydrogen” and is a measure of how many  $H^+$  ions there are in solution.
- The strength of an acid or base is usually measured using a **pH scale**
- The more  $H^+$  there are, the lower the pH will be

# The pH Scale



Acidic



0



Battery acid

1



Stomach acid

2



Lemon

3



Vinegar

4



Tomato

5



Coffee

6



Milk

Neutral

7



Pure water (pH 7)

8



Blood

9



Baking soda

10



Antacids

11



Ammonia solution

12



Soap

13



Bleach

14



Drain cleaner

Basic





# Acid-Base Strength

- The numbers of the pH scale usually range from 0 – 14, but numbers outside this range are possible
- The middle number, 7, represents a neutral solution
- A **neutral** substance is neither an acid nor a base. Pure water has a pH of 7

# Acid-Base Strength

- $\text{pH} < 7$  indicate acidic solution
- $\text{pH} = 7$  indicate neutral solution
- $\text{pH} > 7$  indicate basic solution

# Acid-Base Strength

- A concentrated strong acid has a low pH value
- A concentrated strong base has a high pH value

# Acid-Base Indicators

- An **acid-base indicator** is a compound that will change color in the presence of an acid or base
- **Litmus** is a plant extract that can be blue or red (pink)
  - Litmus turns red/pink in an acidic solution
  - Litmus turns blue in a basic solution

ACID  
RED  
BASE  
BLUE

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# Acid-Base Indicators

- The color of hydrangea flowers is dependent upon the pH of soil



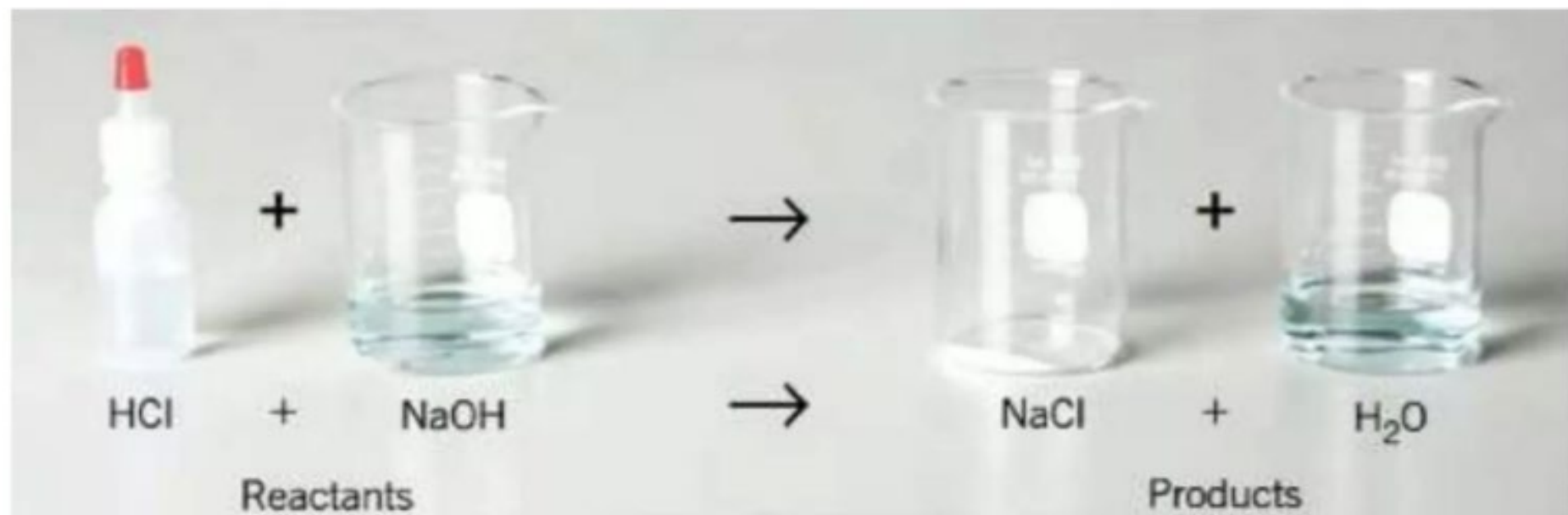
# Acid-Base Indicators

- It would be impossible to determine the pH of all solutions using just one indicator, such as litmus
- Several other acid-base indicators exist, each producing a color change at a specific pH level



# Acids and Bases Neutralize Each Other

- When an acid and base react with each other, the characteristic properties of both are destroyed. This is called **neutralization**.



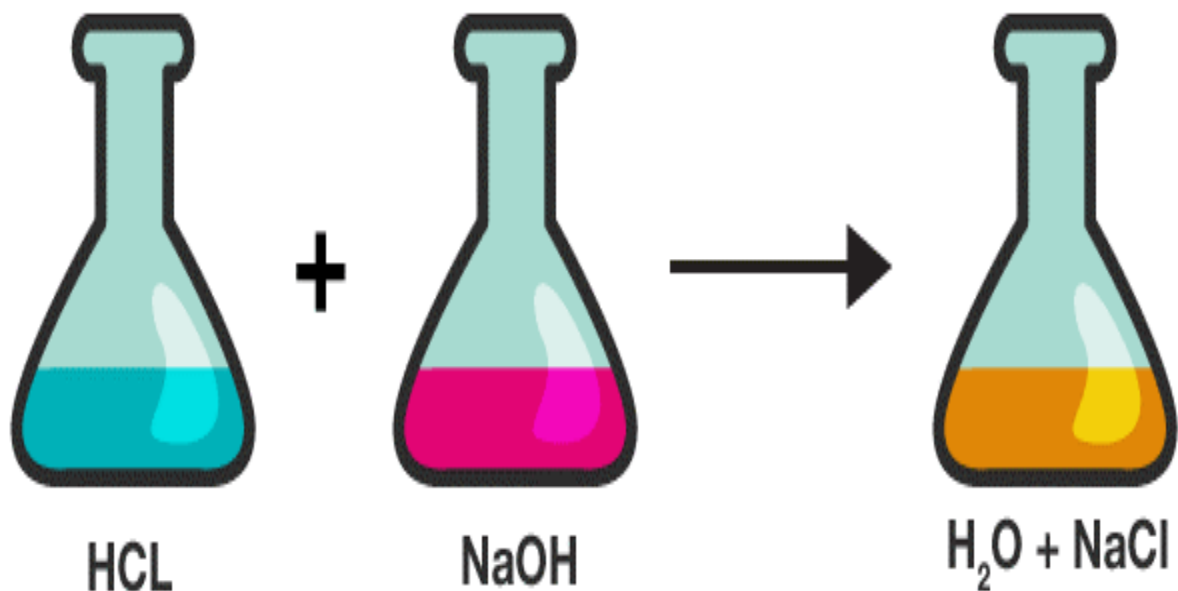
## Acids and Bases Neutralize Each Other

- The salts formed may be soluble in water or can be insoluble
- If the salt is insoluble, a precipitate will form
- Recall: a **precipitate** is a suspension of a small, solid particles formed during a chemical reaction

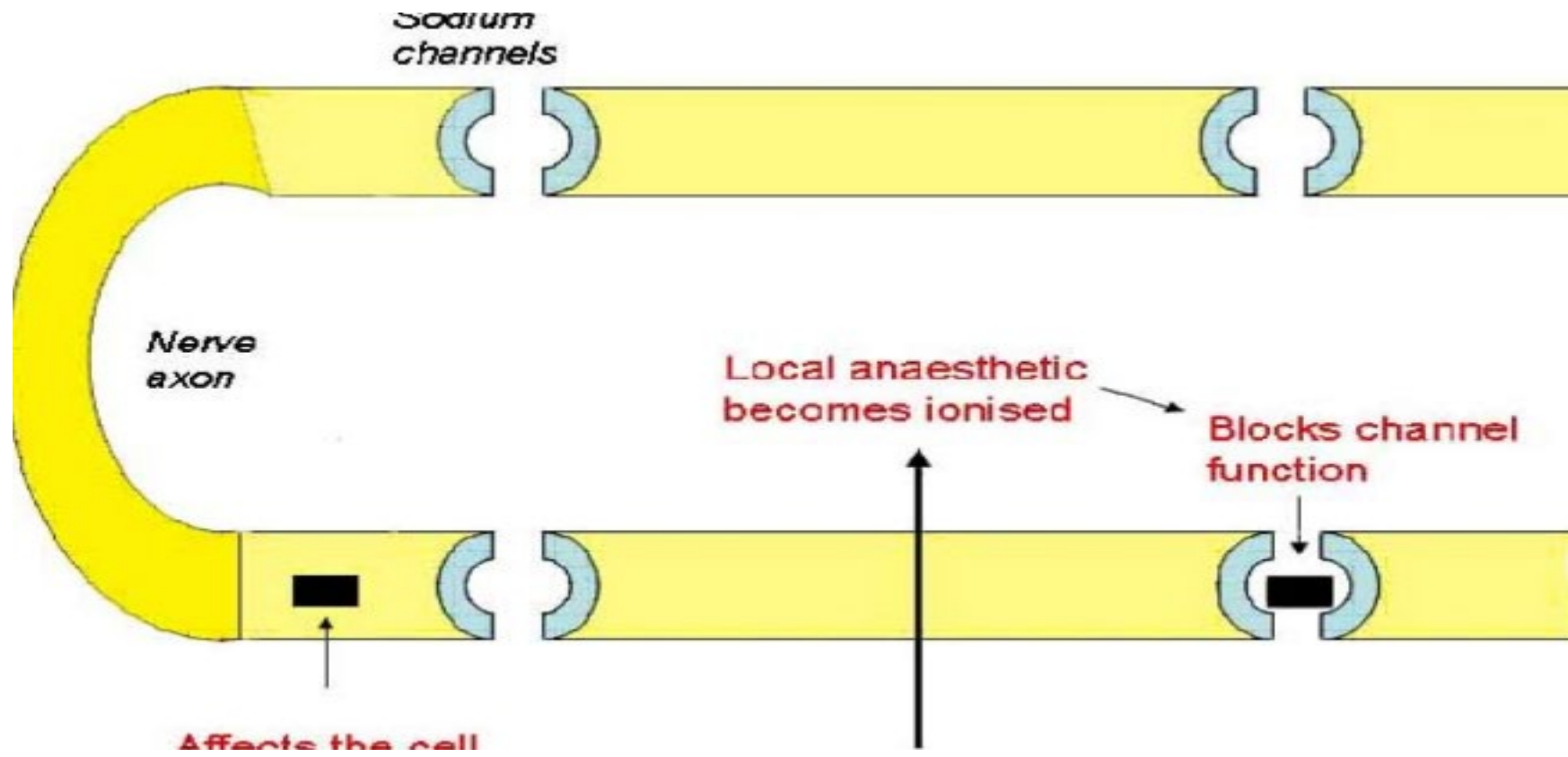




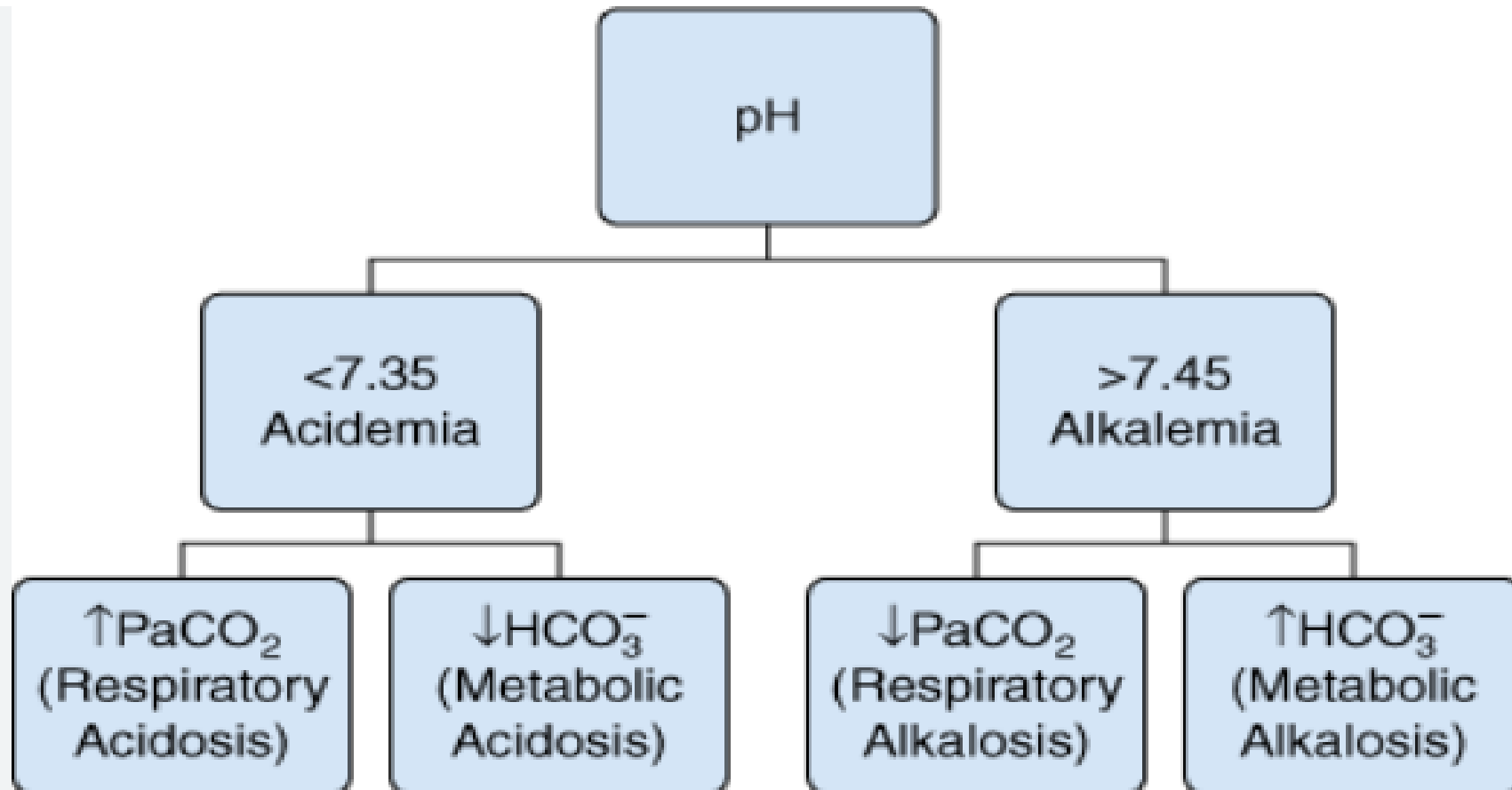
# NEUTRALIZATION REACTION EQUATION



# How Do Local Block Nerve Cells?



# Acid & Bases in Blood Gases



Source: McKean S, Ross JJ, Dressler DD, Brotman DJ, Ginsberg JS: *Principles and Practice of Hospital Medicine*: [www.accessmedicine.com](http://www.accessmedicine.com)

# Blood Gases

Respiratory/Metabolic  
Acidosis/Alkalosis

State the patient's disorder:

pH 7.38, PCO<sub>2</sub> 49, HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> 34

pH 7.55, pCO<sub>2</sub> 25, HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> 26

pH 7.31, pCO<sub>2</sub> 49, HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> 23

pH 7.44, pCO<sub>2</sub> 48, HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> 32

# Blood Gas Compensation

## Compensatory mechanisms

1. Chemical buffering-immediate
2. Respiratory compensation

## Renal compensation

-more gradual

# Acidosis & Alkalosis Physiological Effects

## SYMPTOMS OF ACIDOSIS

### Central Nervous System

- Headache
- Sleepiness
- Confusion
- Loss of consciousness
- Coma

### Respiratory System

- Shortness of breath
- Coughing

### Heart

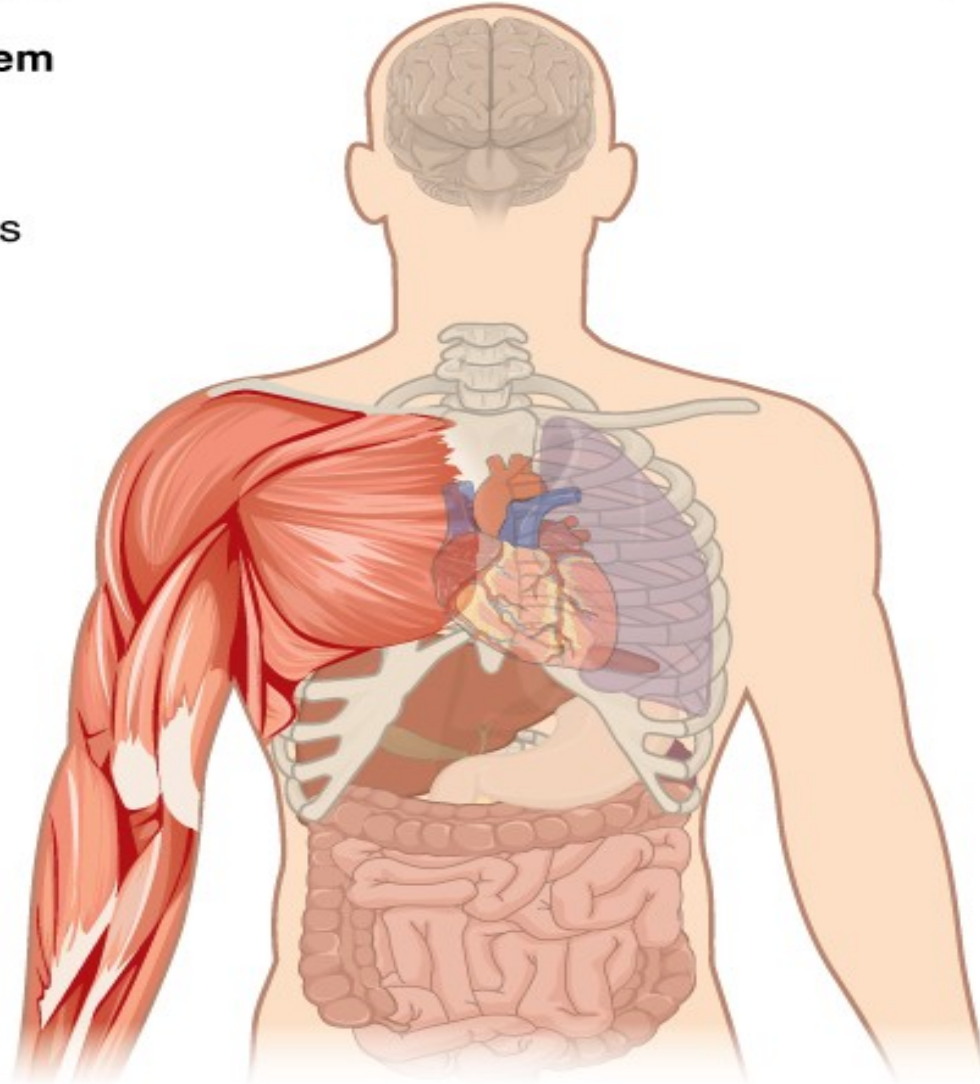
- Arrhythmia
- Increased heart rate

### Muscular System

- Seizures
- Weakness

### Digestive System

- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea



## SYMPTOMS OF ALKALOSIS

### Central Nervous System

- Confusion
- Light-headedness
- Stupor
- Coma

### Peripheral Nervous System

- Hand tremor
- Numbness or tingling in the face, hands, or feet

### Muscular System

- Twitching
- Prolonged spasms

### Digestive System

- Nausea
- Vomiting

# Blood Gases: Acid Base Dilemma

**Approach to Acid-Base Disorders**


**P** Determine the pH

**L** Labs:  $PCO_2$  &  $HCO_3$

**A** Calculate Anion Gap

**C** Compensation

**O** Other Processes



**Acidemia** (< 7.35)      **Normal** (7.40)      **Alkalemia** (> 7.45)

**Labs:  $PCO_2$  &  $HCO_3$**

If  $PCO_2 > 45$  → primary respiratory acidosis  
 If  $HCO_3 < 22$  → primary metabolic acidosis

If  $PCO_2 < 35$  → primary respiratory alkalosis  
 If  $HCO_3 > 32$  → primary metabolic alkalosis

**Calculate Anion Gap**

$AG = Na - (Cl + HCO_3)$       normal AG = 12  
 Correct anion gap for serum albumin level

Normal AG may differ so check your lab references  
 Corrected AG = AG + 2.5 X (4 - serum albumin level)

**Compensation**

Met acidosis: 1 meq ↓ in  $HCO_3$  ⇒ 1.2 mm ↓  $PCO_2$   
 Met alkalosis: 1 meq ↑ in  $HCO_3$  ⇒ 0.7 mm ↑  $PCO_2$

Resp acidosis: 10 mm ↑  $PCO_2$  ⇒ 1 meq (3.5 meq if chronic) ↑  $HCO_3$   
 Resp alkalosis: 10 mm ↓  $PCO_2$  ⇒ 2 meq (4 meq if chronic) ↓  $HCO_3$

**Anion Gap**

- Determine Osmolality Gap
- Measured - Calculated Osmolality
- $Osm = 2 \times Na + glu/18 + BUN/2.8$
- Suspect toxic alcohol ingestions

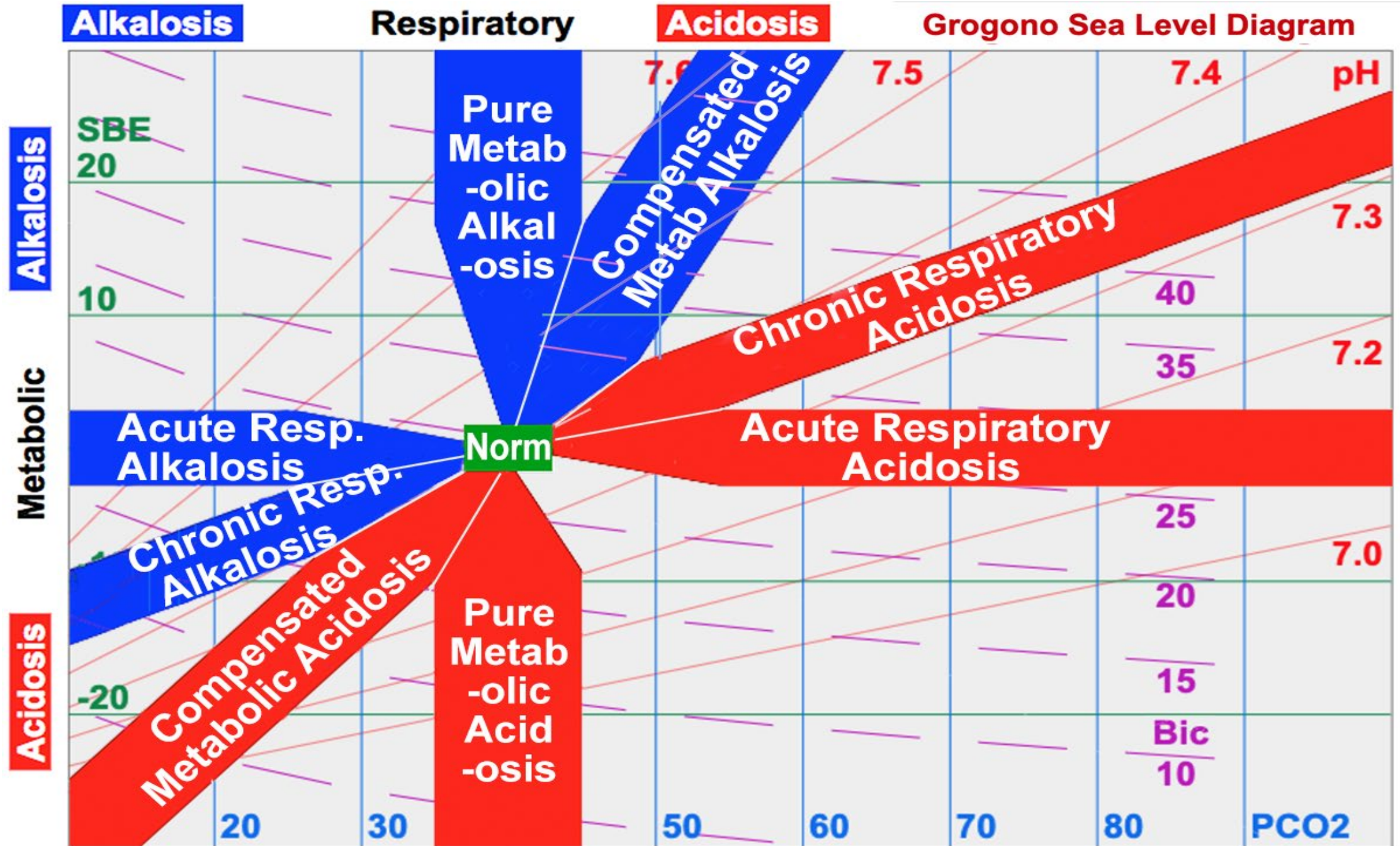
**Other Processes**

**Mixed Acid-Base**

- Determine Delta / Delta  $\Delta AG / \Delta HCO_3$
- > 2 = HAGMA + Met Alkalosis
- < 1 = HAGMA + NAGMA

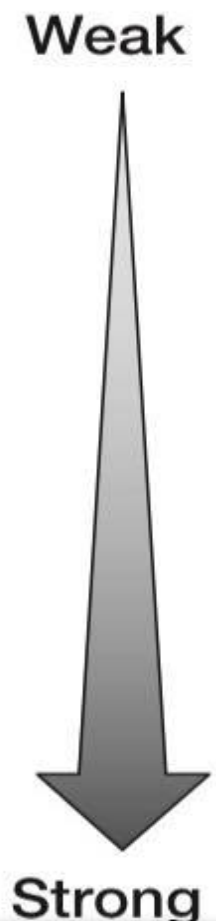
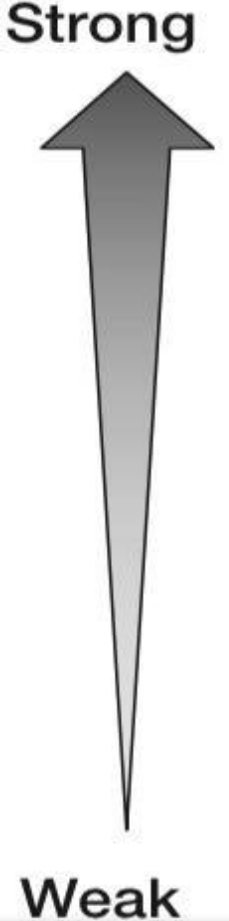
**Non-Anion Gap**

- Determine Urine Anion Gap
- Urine AG = Urine (Na + K) - Cl
- Positive Gap = RTA, etc.
- Negative Gap = GI loss





Pka is the Ph in Which 50% of Drug Ionized & 50% Non Ionized

	Bases	$pK_a$	Acids	$pK_a$	
 <p>Weak</p> <p>Strong</p>	Diazepam	3.7	Salicylic Acid	3	 <p>Strong</p> <p>Weak</p>
	Etomidate	4.1	Frusemide	3.9	
	Midazolam	6.15			
	Alfentanil	6.5			
	Ketamine	7.5	Thiopentone	7.6	
	Lignocaine	7.8	Methohexitone	7.9	
	Bupivacaine	8.2	Atropine	8.9	
	Fentanyl	8.4	Paracetamol	9.5	
	Morphine	8.6			
			Propofol	11	

# QUESTIONS?

