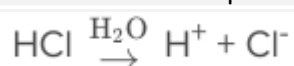


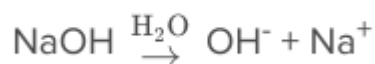
## How Antacids Work – Chloe

Your stomach produces acid to help with digesting food and killing germs. The acid in your stomach is corrosive so your body produces a barrier to protect the lining from being worn away.

Acid is a compound that produces positive ions and negative nonmetals ions when it is dissolved into water. Hydrochloric acid is an example of an acid. When it dissolves in water, it produces positive hydrogen ions and negative chloride ions. This can be represented by the chemical equation:



Alkalis is a compound that produces negative ions and positive nonmetals ions when it is dissolved in water when the base sodium hydroxide dissolves in water, it produces negative hydroxide ions and positive sodium ions. This can be represented by the chemical equation:



When an acid and alkali react, this is called neutralisation. This is because the reaction produces neutral products. Water is always going to be one as well as salt.

Some daily products you use everyday that are acids and alkali are:

Vinegar-acid

Lemon and lime juice-acid

Laundry detergent- alkali

Baking soda-alkali

In some people the barrier that protects the stomach lining may have deteriorated. This may let the acid escape and irritate the gullet. This would be called acid reflux.

Antacids work by counteracting the acid in your stomach. The chemicals in the antiacide are alkalis. The reaction between acids and alkalis is called neutralisation. Referring to the Ph scale, the strongest acid is 1 and the strongest alkalis is 14 (7 being neutral). The reaction makes the acid less corrosive. Consequently, this can help relieve the pain of a burning sensation.