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## **Department: Nursing**

- 1. The IUPAC names of the following organic compounds are;
  - o CH3OCH3- Methoxymethane
  - **O CH3CH2OCH2CH3- Ethoxymethane**
  - o (CH3CH2CH2CH2)2O-Butoxymethane
  - o CH3CH2OCH3-Methoxyethane
  - **O CH3CH2CH2OCH2CH3- Ethoxypropane.**
- 2. The properties of ethers are;
  - Physical states: At room temperature, ethers are colorless, neutral liquids with pleasant odours. The lower aliphatic ethers are highly flammable gases or volatile liquids.
  - Solubility: Ethers are less soluble in water than they are the corresponding alcohols. Lower molecular weight ethers such as methoxymethane and methoxymethane are fairly soluble in water since the molecules are able to form hydrogen bonds with the water molecules but as the hydrocarbon content of the molecules increases, there is a rapid decline in solubility. They are miscible with the most organic solvents.
  - Density: Most of the simple ethers are less dense with water, although the
    density increases with increasing relative molecular mass and some of the
    aromatic ethers are in fact denser than water.
  - O Boiling point: Low molecular mass ethers have a lower boiling point than the corresponding alcohols but those ethers containing alkyl radicals larger than four carbon atoms, the reverse is true. The boiling point of ether tend to approximate those of hydrocarbons of same relative molecular mass from which it can be concluded that the molecules are not associated in the liquid phase as there are no suitably available hydrogen for association through hydrogen bonds.
  - Reactivity: Ethers are inert at moderate temperature. Their inertness at
    moderate temperatures leads to their wide use as reaction media. Simple
    ethers are not found in commonly in nature but the ether linkage is present in
    such natural products as sugars, starches and cellulose.
- 3. Discuss the explicitly two methods of preparing ethers and show equations of reaction
  - Partial dehydration of alcohols: Simple ethers are manufactured from alcohols by catalytic dehydration. The alcohol in excess and concentrated tetraoxosulphate(vi)acid is heated at a carefully maintained temperature of

140°C. This process is known as continuous etherification. If excess alcohol is not used, the temperature is as high as 170-180°C, further dehydration to yield alkene occurs

- Controlled catalytic hydration of olefins
   2CH3CH=CH + H2O-----→(CH3)2CH-O-CH(CH3)2
   2-isopropoxypropane
- 4. The three uses of ethylene oxide are;
- **Ethylene oxide is used as a sterilizing agent.**
- ➤ Ethylene oxide is used in the preparation of non-ionic emulsifying agent, plastics and several synthetic textiles.
- ➤ Ethylene oxide is used as an intermediate in the hydroxylic manufacture of ethylene glycol