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COLLEGE: MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT: PHARMACY

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1. IUPAC names of the following;

i. CH3OCH3= methoxymethane.

ii. CH3CH2OCH2CH3= Ethoxyethane.

iii.CH3CH2OCH3= Methoxyethane.

iv. (CH3CH2CH2CH2)2O= butoxybutane

v. CH3CH2CH2OCH2CH3= Propoxyethane.

2. Ether molecules have a net dipole moment due to polarity of c-o bonds. The boiling points of

ethers are comparable to that of alkanes but much lower than that of alcohols of comparable

molecular mass despite the polarity of c-o bonds. The miscibility of ethers with water resembles

those of alcohols.

Ethers are generally very unreactive in nature. The alkoxy group in ethers activates the

aromatic ring at ortho and the parapositions for electrophilic substitution. Aromatic ethers

undergo *HALOGENATION*.

3. a. Preparation of ethers by dehydration of alcohols.

In the presence of sulphuric acid, alcohol undergoes dehydration to produce alkenes and ethers under different conditions. This method of preparation is possible with the use of **PRIMARY ALCOHOLS.**

H2SO4

443K CH2=CH2

CH3CH2OH

H2SO4

413K C2H5OC2H5

It is a *nucleophilic substitution reaction*

B. Preparation of ethers by Williamson synthesis:

Williamson synthesis is an important method for preparing symmetrical and asymmetrical ethers in the laboratory. This method, an alkyl halide is reacted with sodium alkoxide which leads to the formation of ethers. The reaction generally follows the Sn2 mechanism of primary alcohols.

4.i. used as a fumigant in certain agricultural products.

- ii. used as a sterilant for medical equipment's and supplies.
- iii. used as an intermediate in the production of several industrial chemicals.