

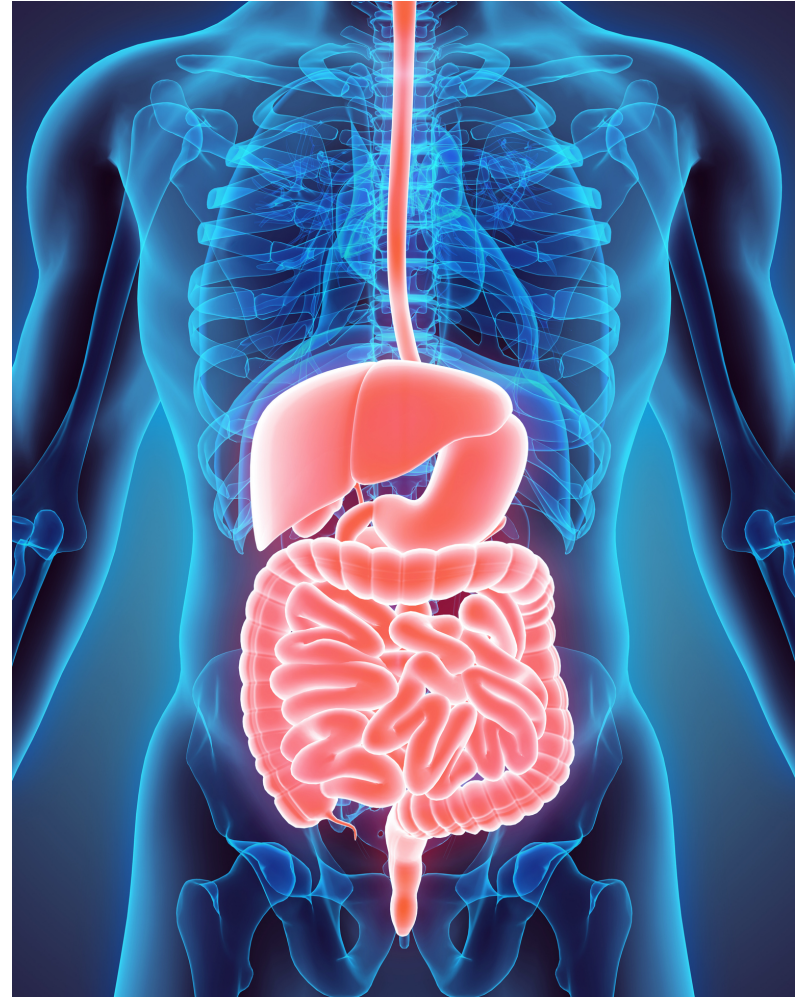
Pharmacology

Dentistry Department

3rd Grade

Gastrointestinal and Antiemetic Drugs

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- **D. Stool softeners (emollient laxatives or surfactants):**
- Surface-active agents that become emulsified with the stool produce softer feces and ease passage. These include ***docusate sodium*** and ***docusate calcium***. They may take days to become effective and are often used for prophylaxis rather than acute treatment. Stool softeners should not be taken concomitantly with *mineral oil* because of the potential for absorption of the *mineral oil*.
- **E. Lubricant laxatives:**
- ***Mineral oil* and *glycerin suppositories*** are lubricants and act by facilitating the passage of hard stools. *Mineral oil* should be taken orally in an upright position to avoid its aspiration and potential for lipid or lipoid pneumonia.

- **F. Chloride channel activators:**
- ***Lubiprostone*** , currently the only agent in this class, **works by activating chloride channels to increase fluid secretion in the intestinal lumen. This eases the passage of stools and causes little change in electrolyte balance.**
- ***Lubiprostone* is used in the treatment of chronic constipation,** particularly because tolerance or dependency has not been associated with this drug. Also, drug– drug interactions appear minimal because metabolism occurs quickly in the stomach and jejunum.

*Thank
you!*