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21 Authors

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22 Date of Revision

4 May 2017.

Magnesium Carbonate

1 Nonproprietary Names

BP: Heavy Magnesium Carbonate
Light Magnesium Carbonate

JP: Magnesium Carbonate

PhEur: Magnesium Carbonate, Heavy
Magnesium Carbonate, Light

USP–NF: Magnesium Carbonate

2 Synonyms

Carbonic acid, magnesium salt (1:1); carbonate magnesium; *Destab*; E504; hydromagnesite; magnesii subcarbonas levis; magnesii subcarbonas ponderosus. *See* Sections 4 and 17.

3 Chemical Name and CAS Registry Number

Magnesium carbonate anhydrous [546-93-0]
See also Sections 4 and 17.

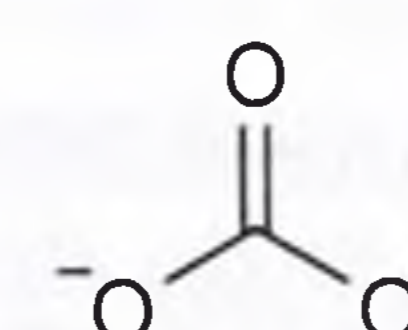
4 Empirical Formula and Molecular Weight

Magnesium carbonate is not a homogeneous material but may consist of the normal hydrate, the basic hydrate, and the anhydrous

material $MgCO_3$, which is rarely encountered. Basic magnesium carbonate is probably the most common form, and may vary in formula between light magnesium carbonate, $(MgCO_3)_3 \cdot Mg(OH)_2 \cdot 3H_2O$, and magnesium carbonate hydroxide, $(MgCO_3)_4 \cdot Mg(OH)_2 \cdot 5H_2O$. Normal magnesium carbonate is a hydrous magnesium carbonate with a varying amount of water, $MgCO_3 \cdot xH_2O$.

See also Sections 8, 13, and 17.

5 Structural Formula



Mg^{2+}

See Section 4.

6 Functional Category

Adsorbent; tablet and capsule diluent.