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N-acetylcysteine/Simethicone Solution

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *N-acetylcysteine/Simethicone Solution*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C136988.

An oral solution composed of N-acetylcysteine, a synthetic N-acetyl derivative of the endogenous amino acid L-cysteine, and simethicone, a mixture of polydimethylsiloxanes and hydrated silica gel, with mucolytic and antifoaming activities. Upon oral administration of the mucolytic solution, N-acetylcysteine breaks down disulfide bonds in mucoproteins, resulting in liquification of mucus in the upper respiratory tract. Simethicone reduces the surface tension of gas bubbles causing them to coalesce into larger bubbles that can be passed more easily. This increases the passage of mucus and gas bubbles from the upper digestive tract. This may also increase visibility of the gastric mucosa during upper endoscopy.