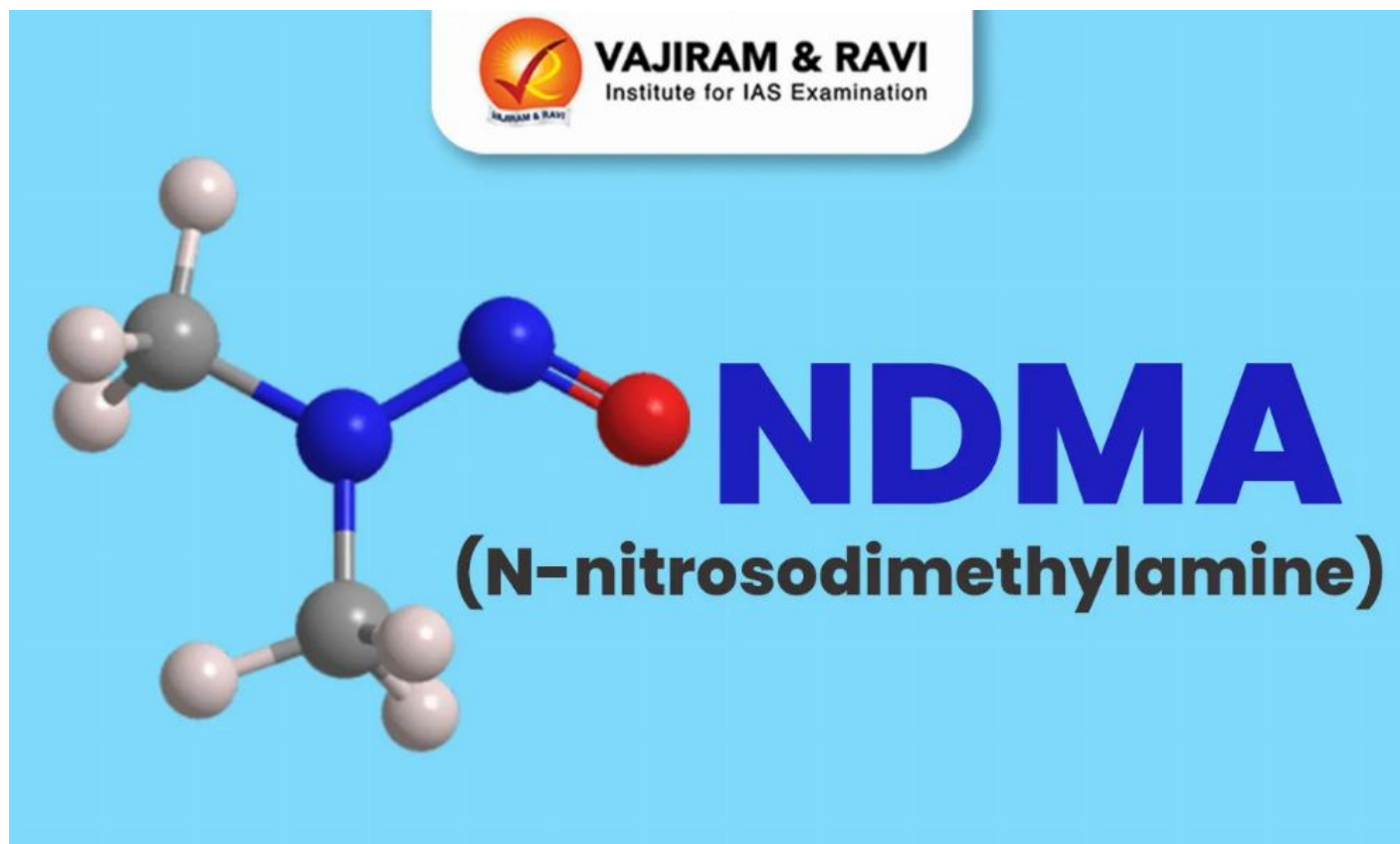


N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA)

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N-Nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA) Latest News

Recently, drug regulator DCGI has asked drug controllers of all states and Union Territories to direct manufacturers under their jurisdiction to monitor the presence of a potentially carcinogenic chemical — N-Nitrosodimethylamine — in antacid Ranitidine.

About N-Nitrosodimethylamine

- It is a **volatile organic chemical** that occurs widely in the environment due to its ready formation from commonly found precursors.
- It is classified as a **probable human carcinogen** (a substance that could cause cancer) on the basis of animal studies.
- NDMA are formed when a **secondary or tertiary amine reacts** with a **nitrite ion** under acidic conditions.

Features of N-Nitrosodimethylamine

- It is a **yellow, odorless liquid chemical** once used to make rocket fuel.

- It is also a byproduct of several manufacturing processes and water chlorination.
- NDMA breaks down **when sunlight hits it**.
- **Applications:** Historically it was commercially used in the production of rocket fuel, antioxidants, softeners for copolymers, and additives for lubricants.

Exposure to N-Nitrosodimethylamine

- Normally, people are exposed to small amounts of NDMA in the environment and through food and water.
- Chemicals found in food and water, such as nitrosamines or alkylamines, can turn into NDMA in the stomach.
- NDMA is also **created when food or drink is processed**. Foods such as cured meats (particularly bacon), beer, fish, cheese and even vegetables may contain NDMA.
- Some people may have had exposure to NDMA through the use of contaminated medications

Source: ET

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/what-is-n-nitrosodimethylamine-ndma/>

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