

Organic Functional Groups Found in Drugs

<u>General Structure*</u>	<u>Name (functional group)</u>	<u>Acid or Base</u>
R-CO ₂ H	carboxylic acid (carboxyl)	Acid
R-CO ₂ ⁻	carboxylate ion (carboxylate)	Base
R-NH ₂ , RR'NH, RR'R"N	1°, 2°, 3° amine (amino)	Base
R-CH=N-R'	imine (imino)	Base
R-CH=NH ⁺ -R'	iminium ion (immino)	Acid
R-NH ₃ ⁺ (also 2° and 3°)	ammonium ion (ammonium)	Acid
R-OH	alcohol or phenol (hydroxyl)	Acid
R-O-R'	ether	Neutral
R-SH	thiol, mercaptan (sulfhydryl)	Acid
R-S-R'	thioether	Neutral
R-CN	nitrile (cyano)	Neutral
R-X (X = F, Cl, Br, I)	halide (fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo)	Neutral
R-CO ₂ R'	ester	Neutral
R-CONH ₂	amide (amido)	Neutral
R-CO-NH-CO-R'	imide	Acid
R-SO ₂ NH-R'	sulfonamide (sulfonamido)	Acid
R-CO-CHR'-CO-R"	β-diketone**	Acid
R-CO-CR'=C(R")-OH	vinylogous carboxylic acid**	Acid
R-CF ₃	trifluoromethyl***	Neutral
R-NO ₂	nitro***	Neutral

* R, R', and R" are used to denote an alkyl or an aryl (aromatic) group.

** strong carbon acid

*** strongly electron withdrawing