

In chemistry, carbonic acid is an inorganic compound with the chemical formula H_2CO_3 . As a dilute solution in water, it is pervasive, but the pure compound, a colorless gas, can only be obtained.

The carbonic anhydrases (or carbonate dehydratases) form a family of [enzymes](#) that catalyze the interconversion between [carbon dioxide](#) and [water](#) and the dissociated ions of [carbonic acid](#) (i.e. bicarbonate and hydrogen ions).

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Last update: **2024/06/07 02:52**

