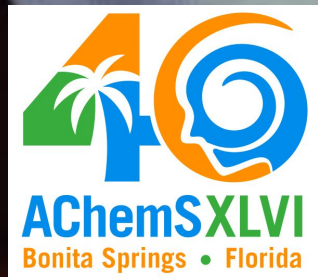
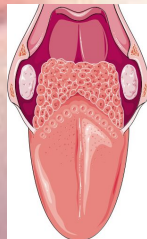


Imagine young children who need to take medicine that tastes bad, like bitter vitamins or supplements. This can be a struggle for both the child and the caregiver, especially in critical situations where the child needs the medicine in order to not become dangerously ill. This study looked at ways to make a special medicine drink for diarrhea that tastes bitter, more palatable for kids between 6 months and 5 years old. This drink is an essential rehydration tool when children are suffering from diarrhea. **The researchers tried different things to make the drink taste less bitter.** Adding salt and zinc didn't really help. But when they added a special type of sugar (sucralose) and another ingredient called sodium gluconate, kids liked the drink a lot more! In fact, the kids drank the improved drink just as well as a regular rehydration drink or a sweet drink with regular sugar. They were even able to drink up to 80 ml (a little over a quarter cup) in just 15 minutes! **This is exciting because it means doctors might soon have a new option for kids who need to take certain medications but have trouble taking them because they taste bad.**

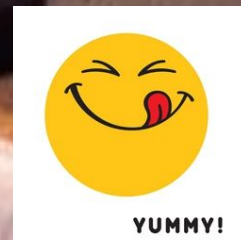
Sick Kid? Scientists work to help kids take the medicine they need



Child refusing
medicine because
it tastes bad?



Scientists target taste
buds to mask poor
taste of medicine



Children enjoyed the
medicine!

PALATABILITY MODULATION OF AMINO ACID-BASED ORAL REHYDRATION THERAPY IN CHILDREN

Read more about it: