

microorganisms. The Brunner glands, which empty into the intestinal glands, secrete an alkaline fluid composed of mucin, which exerts a physiologic anti-acid function by coating the duodenal epithelium, therefore protecting it from the acid chyme of the stomach. The mucus secreted by Brunner's glands is alkaline, and helps to neutralize the acid chyme produced by the stomach, to produce chyme with a pH suitable for the digestive enzymes of the small intestine. Both Brunner's glands, and the goblet cells in the duodenum secrete mucus.