**Preservation of Pharmaceutical products**

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**Abstract**

A preservative is a natural or synthetic chemical that is added to products such as foods, pharmaceuticals, paints, biological samples, wood, etc. to prevent decomposition by microbial growth or by undesirable chemical changes. Preservatives are substances that are commonly added to various foods and pharmaceutical products in order to prolong their shelf life.

Current review focuses on the commonly used preservatives, their chemistry, mechanism of action, factors to be considered while selecting preservatives , their potential toxicities and impact on the health caused by their repeated use.