

Regulatory Information Sheet

List of Colors Permitted to be Used in Drugs in India Rule 127 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940 and Rules 1945

Color- Common Name *	EEC Number	Color Index Number	Alternate Names
NATURAL COLORS			
Annatto	E160b	75120	--
Carotene	E160a	75130	Alpha, Beta & Gamma Carotene
Chlorophylls	E140	--	--
Cochineal	E120	75470	Carminic Acid, Carmine 40
Curcumin	E100	75300	Turmeric
Red Oxide of Iron	E172	77491	Iron Oxide Red
Yellow Oxide of Iron	E172	77492	Iron Oxide Yellow
Black Oxide of Iron	E172	77499	Iron Oxide Black
Titanium Dioxide	E171	77891	--
ARTIFICIAL COLORS			
Caramel	E150a	--	--
Riboflavin	E101	--	--
COAL TAR COLORS**			
Alizarine Cyanine Green F		61570	D&C Green # 5, Acid Green
Amaranth [†]	E123	16185	Banned for use in drugs
Brilliant Blue FCF	E133	42090	FD&C Blue #1
Carmoisine	E122	14720	Azorubine
Eosin YS or Eosin G	--	45380	D&C Red # 22
Erythrosine	E127	45430	FD&C Red #3
Fast Green FCF	--	42053	FD&C Green # 3
Fast Red E [†]	--	16045	Banned for use in drugs
Green S [†]	E142	44090	Banned for use in drugs
Indigo Carmine	E132	73015	FD&C Blue #2, Indigotine
Naphthol blue -Black	--	20470	--
Orange G	--	16230	--
Ponceau 4R	E124	16255	Cochineal Red A
Quinazarine Green SS	--	61565	D&C Green # 6
Quinoline Yellow WS ^{††}	E104	47005	--
Resorcin Brown	--	20170	D&C Brown # 1
Sunset Yellow FCF	E110	15985	FD&C Yellow #6, Orange Yellow S
Tartrazine	E102	19140	FD&C Yellow #5
Toney Red or Sudan 3	--	26100	D&C Red # 17

*The label on the container of a drug containing a permitted color shall indicate the common name of the color

** Aluminum or Calcium salts (Lakes) of any of the water soluble colors listed under Coal Tar colors are also permitted.

† Banned for use in drugs.

†† This is not D&C Yellow #10. Although the C.I. numbers are the same, the dyes differ in composition. Quinoline Yellow is primarily the disulfonated quinoline dye, whereas D&C Yellow #10 is the monosulfonated color.

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