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Coloring Agents

1 Nonproprietary Names

See Section 17 and Tables I, II, III, and IV.

2 Synonyms

See Section 17 for specific, selected coloring agents.

3 Chemical Name and CAS Registry Number

See Tables I, II, III, and IV.

4 Empirical Formula and Molecular Weight

See Section 17 for specific selected coloring agents.

5 Structural Formula

See Section 17 for specific selected coloring agents.

6 Functional Category

Colorant; opacifier.

7 Applications in Pharmaceutical Formulation or Technology

Coloring agents are used mainly to impart a distinctive appearance to a pharmaceutical dosage form. The main categories of dosage form that are colored are:

- Tablets: either the core itself or the coating.
- Hard or soft gelatin capsules: the capsule shell or coated beads.
- Oral liquids.
- Topical creams and ointments.

Color is a useful tool to help identify a product in its manufacturing and distribution stages. Patients, especially those using multiple products, often rely on color to be able to recognize the prescribed