

ABSTRACT

The aim of this diploma thesis was to create an overview of colorants authorized for use in pharmaceutical products, conditions of their use and to characterize selected colorants in detail. The thesis is focused on the analysis on the health impact of the colorants. Their connection with child behaviour disorders and allergic reactions is described minutely.

Part of the thesis is devoted to pointing out which colorants show the least negative impact on health as well as colorants with the highest incidence of side effects. A chapter describing the legislation on colorants in pharmaceuticals is also included.

It is obvious, that natural colorants present a lower risk of side effects than synthetic colorants. Synthetic colorants with the highest incidence of side effects include the richly represented group of azo colorants, which causes ADHD in children and in hypersensitive patients, along with the natural colorant carmine, also allergy.

Key words: colorants, natural colorants, synthetic colorants, allergic reaction, behaviour disorder, ADHD