

## Chapter 5

# Preservatives Used in Ophthalmic Preparations



As mentioned in the previous chapter, preservatives are excipients that are commonly used in preparing ophthalmic products. The following preservatives are the most commonly used [1]:

1. Benzalkonium chloride (BAK).
2. Thimerosal.
3. Methylparaben and Propylparaben.
4. Phenyl Ethanol.
5. Chlorhexidine.
6. Polyaminopropyl biguanide.

*It is important to know that Extemporaneous ophthalmic preparations are preservative-free products, and therefore have a short expiry date.*

## Reference

1. Robinson JC. Ophthalmic drug delivery systems. New York, NY: Marcel Dekker; 1993. p. 29–57.