

BARCODE

Barcode Medicine Identification



Barcode

- A **barcode** or **bar code** is a method of representing data in a visual, machine-readable form.
- Initially, barcodes represented data by varying the widths and spacings of parallel lines.
- These barcodes, now commonly referred to as linear or one-dimensional (1D), can be scanned by special optical scanners, called barcode readers.
- Later, two-dimensional (2D) variants were developed, using rectangles, dots, hexagons and other geometric patterns, called *matrix codes* or *2D barcodes*, although they do not use bars as such.
- 2D barcodes can be read or deconstructed using application software on mobile devices with inbuilt cameras, such as smartphones.

TYPES OF BARCODES

- 1D – Linear Barcode
- 2D – Matrix Barcode

LINEAR BARCODE

One dimensional barcode that is made up of lines and spaces of various widths that create specific patterns.



MATRIX BARCODE

A *matrix code*, also termed a *2D barcode* or simply a *2D code*, is a two-dimensional way to represent information. It is similar to a linear (1-dimensional) barcode, but can represent more data per unit area.



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APPLICATION OF BARCODES IN MEDICINE IDENTIFICATION

- Use of Barcodes in medicines prevents human errors in the distribution of prescription medications at hospitals.
- The Barcodes on medicines makes sure that patients are receiving the correct medications at the correct time by electronically validating and documenting medications.
- The information encoded in barcodes allows for the comparison of the medication being administered with what was ordered for the patient.

Effective Treatment Criteria

- a. The right patient
- b. The right medication
- c. At the right time
- d. At the right dose
- e. By the right route

Conclusion

- Barcodes on medicines minimizes the human errors of dispensing and distribution.
- Barcodes helps in dispensing right medicine to right patient.
- Barcodes are encoded by using Barcode reader.
- Barcodes provides each and every information about the medicine electronically like name of medicine, its composition, Manufacturing date, expiry date, price etc.