

Medicine Storage

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Generally, since the ancient time almost every person knows Food preservation by way of maintaining the temperatures of surrounding by any means like Mud Pots, Wet Gunny bags, Wet Clothes, Under ground storage to latest Refrigerators & Cold rooms.



Nowadays refrigerator is a common thing to everyone. But almost everyone is using it for storing foodstuff, vegetables and eatables etc. Having refrigerated storage we are preserving perishable commodities by either eliminating or retarding the activity of spoilage agent. However low temperatures are not effective in bringing about the destruction of spoilage agents, as are high temperatures, the storage of perishables at low temperatures greatly reduce the activity of both enzymes & microorganisms and thereby provide a practical means of preserving perishables in their original fresh state for varying this period.

As the years passed, with the help of latest technology man has achieved a success on almost all diseases. But the efforts put by scientists and manufacturers for certain medicines (Drugs) are in vain. This is neither due to them nor us, but due to lack of knowledge & awareness. Generally as discussed above we know refrigeration for foodstuffs only.

In case of foodstuff the adverse effect of storage temperature leads to lower product quality & short storage life but in case of drugs we are storing them at recommended temperatures for its therapeutic effect on patients and not for long life or taste.

In case of certain drugs not only the expiry date is to be checked but also to it is maintained / stored at recommended temperature. If the drug is not maintained at particular temperature it is of no use medically.

Whenever there is a medicine to get optimum advantage, it is necessary to follow the instructions recommended by manufacturers. It takes months to years for developing the drugs for specific diseases after a long struggle and efforts taken by scientist by having taken trials of drugs contents for effective & fruitful results or recovery of the patients. Whenever any drug is manufactured it contains the main active drug and other fillers or additives. These drugs and additives are tested with their chemical compositions & reactions at different temperatures to give fruitful results & recovery from particular disease.

To maintain the stability of main drug and additives it is necessary to maintain the required environment. By not maintaining the controlled environment the chemical transformation takes place and the properties of medicine would be different than for what it should to cure the disease. Say for example: If the drug has instruction to store it at +2°C to +8°C temperature then it is necessary it is necessary to maintain and store the drug at the temperature to give results for what it is meant. Whenever the drug is not kept at the temperature indicated/recommended then there is a chemical transformation of drug, which in turn degrades the drug & decomposes to inactive drug, which will not give its result; the same drug then won't be medically useful. However the time span needed to degrade the drug is different for each medicine and depends on stability of active drug at different temperatures and time span.

As in case of foodstuff there are symptoms of spoilage or deterioration of products either by taste or physical changes or smell. But this is not there in drugs, to evaluate or judge its quality; it is time to make people aware about the seriousness of the storage of medicine to yield the results. It is also the responsibility of equipment manufacturer to offer / supply the equipments to store the medicines at different recommended temperatures with high energy efficiency and low capital cost which in turn everybody will use. The means to store the drugs at recommended temperatures and not carrying the running cost burden on him. At the same time there is need of Good Medicine Storage equipments which will give trouble free running with maintaining recommended temperature within limits.

In this case there is a requirement of cold room and if you evaluate that there is need of maintaining the storage temperature within prescribed limits to give the better and proper effect of that medicine to patient for what he is spending and for which it is manufactured / developed. Hence it is not only the responsibility of the Medicine Distributor & Manufacturing company but also of the equipment supplier to provide premium (In the sense of materials used and performance) product to his customer, which in turn will give better effect of the medicine to the patients.

The same case is for the equipments required for R&D laboratories. Here it is to be understood that until and unless you do not provide the equipment for what exactly it is needed; then it may lead to the wrong / unfruitful efforts taken by the R&D personnel's.

Reference Book:

Cooling India
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