

Oyenebe Frances Chiamelun Pharmacy 1002 19/03/2017

1.) Alcohols can be classified based on the number of hydrogen atoms attached to the carbon atom containing the hydroxyl group. If the number of hydrogen atoms attached to the carbon atom bearing the hydroxyl group are three or two then it is a primary alcohol (1°) e.g. CH_3OH (Methanol), if the number of hydrogen atoms attached to the carbon atom bearing the hydroxyl group is one then it is a secondary alcohol (2°) e.g. $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$ (Ethanol) and if there is no hydrogen atom attached to the carbon atom bearing the hydroxyl group it is called a tertiary alcohol (3°) e.g. $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{COH}$ (2-methylpropan-2-ol)

Alcohols can also be classified based on the number of hydroxyl groups they possess. An example Monohydric alcohols - Alcohols that have one hydroxyl group present in the alcohol structure e.g. $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$ (Ethanol), Dihydric alcohols or Glycols - Alcohols that have two hydroxyl groups present in the alcohol structure e.g. $\text{C}_2\text{H}_4(\text{OH})_2$ (Ethane-1,2-diol), Trihydric alcohols or Triols - Alcohols that have three hydroxyl groups present in the alcohol structure e.g. $\text{C}_3\text{H}_8(\text{OH})_3$ (Propane-1,2,3-triol) and Polyhydric alcohols or polyols which have more than three hydroxyl groups present in the alcohol structure e.g. $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{14}(\text{OH})_6$ (Heptane-2,3,4,5,6-pentad)

C_7H_{14} 5-

