Industrial paints are susceptible to microbial deterioration. The loss of the quality of these paints is bigger in tropical areas where high temperature and humidity levels are common. The damage due to microorganisms could be detected in external painted surfaces with spots, decoloration or loss. For this reason, in order to inhibit microbial growth, some preserving compounds are added to these products. In this research antibacterial activity of G-0 (new antimicrobial Cuban product) included in aqueous and oil types of paints was evaluated. The chemical formulation of each type of paint are similar, (except for pigmented component necessary for obtaining green or red coloured paints). The antibacterial activity of these paints was compared with positive and negative controls (the first one prepared without any preservant and the other one with commercial preservant Mergal S-96 at 3 % (w/v) concentration). Two layers of each type of paint were applied in filter paper pieces, waiting 24 h or more between each application and seven days later, circular disks of each type of paint were cut. The antibacterial properties were determined using radial diffusion agarized method (in nutrient agar) and fourteen bacterial strains. The painted paper disks prepared were placed between both layers of agar medium and the results were obtained after 24 h of incubation at 35 °C . It was observed that the different constituents of paints can exhibit antibacterial properties, so it was necessary to included this type of control in the antimicrobial tests. Additionally, these constituents can react with antimicrobial preservant added and modify its activity. The oil type paints with G-0 showed better preserving activity than the aqueous types and the green coloured paints are superior than the red paints.

Keywords
Antibacterial activity, antibacterial preservant, inhibition of the microbial growth.