

A method of increasing viscosity of a pharmaceutical formulation for oral or topical administration comprises the steps of combining: a) 0,1 to 30,0 % of one or more hydrophobic active ingredients; b) 5 to 50 % of one or more compounds selected from polyglycerol esters of fatty acids with 6-15 glycerol units; c) 5 to 50 % of one or more compounds selected from polyglycerol esters of fatty acids and/or unsaturated fatty acids with 2-12 glycerol units; d) 5 to 50 % of one or more compounds selected from triglyceride macrogol glycerol esters, partial glycerides or fatty acids or macrogol esters of fatty acids and concurrently the ratio between components b) and d) is from 0.1 : 1 to 10 : 1; and wherein upon dilution with water 1 : 1 by volume the viscosity of the formulation increases by at least 5 times in comparison to the undiluted composition.