

Silver to the Rescue

One alternative to antibiotics that has been around for a long time is colloidal silver. It has long been known that silver has an antimicrobial action. Pioneers, for example, learned that they could keep water from going "bad" by putting a few silver coins in the bottom of the water barrel.

Colloidal silver has been shown to inhibit the growth (bacteriostatic) and kill (bactericidal) all of the bacteria it has been tested against. It is equally effective against gram negative and gram positive bacteria and has an equal or broader action than any single antibiotic drug. Silver has an advantage over antibiotics because it is also anti-fungal, antiviral and antiparasitic.

However, before you run out and buy colloidal silver you need to know that there are three different types of products that are labeled colloidal silver, and only one is the genuine article.

Most silver products are actually ionic silver, which is created by a low cost process of electrolysis. Ionic silver is anti-microbial, but only when chloride is not present. Because it is in ionic form, it is highly reactive with chlorine and other elements. So, when ionic silver enters the digestive tract it reacts with the hydrochloric acid of the stomach (HCL or Hydrogen-Chloride) to form silver chloride. This renders the product therapeutically inert.

In addition, this tends to make the product cause argyria, a problem characterized by a blue/gray discoloration of the skin and inflammation of the inner eyelids. A solution of just 100 parts per million (ppm) of ionic silver will cause argyria.

You can identify ionic silver by adding a little table salt to it. Table salt is sodium chloride, so the chloride in the salt will react with the silver ions and turn the solution cloudy.

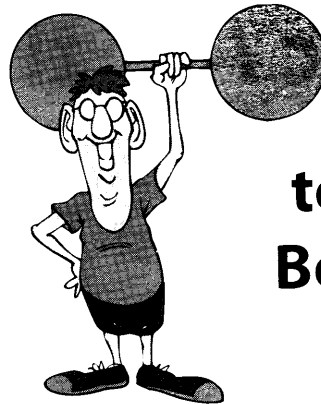
Another form of silver sold as colloidal silver is silver protein. The very large particle size of silver protein makes it unsafe for human consumption.

True colloidal silver is expensive to manufacture, but it will not react with stomach acid or chloride ions. Instead, it will be absorbed into the blood stream where it is effective in destroying pathogenic organisms. It is also easily eliminated from the body, so it will not cause argyria and has no toxicity. You can identify a true colloidal silver preparation because it will have a slight color when held up to a light and it will not react with salt.

Silver Shield

Silver Shield is a true colloidal silver product. It is a patented product that has been approved by the EPA as being completely non-toxic. Although it contains only 14 ppm of colloidal silver, this form of silver is effective at only 10 ppm, and its complete non-toxicity means it is totally safe for daily consumption by children, the elderly, pregnant and nursing mothers, and pets.

The patented colloidal silver in Silver Shield has been tested and proven effective against the pathogens that cause malaria, upper respiratory infections, sinusitis, urinary tract infections, ear, eye and throat infections, vaginal yeast infections, food poisoning, fungal skin infections, diarrhea, impetigo, strep throat, pneumonia and many others. It can be applied topically and used internally.



Nature Has The Answer

Remedies to Boost Your Body's Natural Defenses

Antibiotics aren't the only way to fight infection. There are many herbs which have been used effectively to fight infection for centuries. Although there is a lot of cross-over, we've broken these remedies down into two categories—bacterial infections and viral infections.

Bacterial Infections

Besides, **Silver Shield**, mentioned in the previous column, here are some of your best natural remedies for bacterial infections, although many of them also work on viral infections, too.

Garlic

Garlic has been called "Nature's Penicillin" and is probably one of the most valuable natural alternatives to antibiotics available. Garlic contains a compound called alliin. When it is crushed, an enzyme called alliinase converts alliin to allicin, a very pungent and anti-microbial compound. Allicin is what gives fresh crushed garlic its powerful odor, but it's also what makes freshly crushed garlic one of nature's most effective natural antibiotics.

Garlic is not only effective against a wide variety of bacteria, it is also helpful in combating viral, fungal and parasitic infections. Its strongest sites of action are the intestinal tract and the respiratory passages, so it is particularly good for respiratory and intestinal infections. It has also been used for sore throats, earaches and skin infections.

Alliin degrades into other compounds over a 24-hour period, so powdered, dried garlic is not very helpful for fighting infections. Fortunately, there are ways to stabilize this antimicrobial compound. Each tablet of **High Potency Garlic** contains the stabilized allicin from about one clove of raw garlic. The tablets also contain chlorophyll which helps mask the odor of the raw garlic.

Garlic Oil in softgel capsules is another good way to use garlic to fight infection, especially in children. Some children will actually chew and swallow the softgel capsules, but they can also be poked with a sterilized nettle or pin and the con-

