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By Loretta Weston

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Prior to 1938, many doctors used a natural substance in treating numerous ailments. However, with the discovery of penicillin in the 1940's, this old-fashioned remedy was placed in the back of the closet and nearly forgotten.

Today, the dilemma of resistant bacteria has sent researchers back to the test tubes scrambling for new answers to old questions. Some researchers believe they have found those answers in colloidal silver (CS), the solution that was used during the 1800's, then discarded as newer, patentable, more profitable ideas emerged. CS is today's hottest topic in the health food and supplements community. From burns to viruses to bacteria to fungus, health advisors are publishing case after astonishing case of positive results from the use of this new old- fashioned wonder drug. Even cancer and AIDS patients are claiming alleged benefits from colloidal silver. An example of such cases is this testimonial: "A 65 year old diabetic cut himself on the leg. He washed and bandaged it but as often happened with diabetes, the pain persisted, and the cut grew into a sore. Soon it became bigger than that bandage, and he had to apply a dressing. Still, it grew bigger and ugly. In desperation he went to a clinic. His sore was diagnosed as a "stasis ulcer." For a year, one treatment after another was tried. Nothing, including penicillin and sulfonamide, could heal the ulcer. If his condition had continued unchecked, his leg probably would have been amputated. But finally he was referred to a clinic that treated skin ulcers with a new silver compound. This promptly stopped growth of all bacteria. In less than two months the ulcer was completely healed."

The essence of colloid

Colloid (KOL' OI) refers to a substance that consists of ultra-fine particles that are suspended in a medium of different matter (i.e. a non-soluble mineral suspended in water). These particles are typically 0.01 to 0.001 of a micron in diameter, or about four hundred thousandths to four millionths of an inch. About one billion of these particles could fit into a cube four one hundredths of an inch in size.

Some researchers, such as Dr. Leonard Keene Hirschberg, A.M., M.D. of Johns Hopkins, believe that the potential of colloidal silver is just beginning to be discovered. Unlike antibiotics which are specific only to bacteria, CS has a positive charge which enables it to attach itself electrically to certain enzymes needed by anaerobic (bad) bacteria, viruses, yeasts, and fungus resulting in the destruction of these enzymes. Further indication is that these bacteria cannot develop a resistance to silver, as they do with antibiotics, because silver attacks their food source, rather than them directly.

Argyria; a possible side effect

According to a patient who was treated with nose drops containing silver with less than desirable results, Rosemary Jacobs (now age 57) says that at age 11 a doctor on Long Island prescribed nose drops for a persistent cold which he determined was actually allergies. By age 14, her skin was slate-gray. The diagnosis was argyria, a permanent, irreversible skin discoloration caused by the ingestion of silver. About 300 cases of argyria have been reported in various medical literature. However, researchers responding to the possibility of argyria conclude that the nose drops likely contained silver nitrate and that "...this condition has never been known to occur from silver in the colloidal state."

Modern CS applications

Silver has been used for generations in goblets, silverware, and other food areas because of the belief that it inhibits diseases. In more recent times, the former Soviet Union used silver to sterilize recycled water on their space shuttles. Many international airlines use silver water filters to ensure safe drinking water for passengers. The Swiss have approved use of these filters in homes and offices. Some US city municipalities use silver in treatment of sewage and is sometimes used to purify swimming pool water to avoid the stinging of the eyes that chlorine causes. CS also purifies drinking water. Silver has become the latest agent in the fight against airborne toxins, as well other industrial poisons, in the Japanese work place.

Afred Searle, founder of the giant Searle Pharmaceuticals (now Monsanto) stated, "Applying colloidal silver to human subjects has been done in a large number of cases with astonishingly successful results. For internal administration ... it has the advantage being rapidly fatal to pathogens without toxic action on its host. It is quite stable." Further information indicates that CS does not cause harmful interactions with other medications.

Science Digest cites CS as "...a wonder of modern medicine," and further states "Antibiotics kill perhaps a half dozen different disease organisms, but silver kills some 650. Resistant strains fail to develop. Moreover, silver is virtually non toxic."

Dr. Robert O. Becker of Syracuse University stated, "All of the organisms that we tested were sensitive to the electrically 'generated silver ion, including some that were resistant to all known antibiotics...In no case were any undesirable side effects of the silver treatment apparent.

Bioterrorism calls for a powerful antibiotic

Former CIA microbiologist, Larry Harris, stated that colloidal silver is known to be effective against multiple disease-causing pathogenic microorganisms, including anthrax, diphtheria, influenza, whooping cough, and typhoid. In fact, it appears to be nature's most powerful antibiotic. For contaminated drinking water, boil to kill off any heat-susceptible microorganisms, add two ounces of fresh colloidal silver per half gallon, and shake or stir briskly. Let the water set for ten minutes, shake briskly again and let set for another ten minutes before consuming.

According to experts, no microorganism ever tested has been able to stay alive for more than six minutes when exposed directly to colloidal silver. It is also recognized as one of the most potent antidotes for food poisoning.

Although CS can be purchased commercially, these solutions have a limited shelf life from one to six months, making such a source not only expensive, but not suitable for a long term supply.

WorldNetDaily reported earlier this month that FEMA officials anticipate a national emergency will be declared due to "more than 50 simultaneous Y2K-related disruptions throughout the country" as the clock ticks into the new millennium. They further stated that such an event "will stretch the nation's local, state and national emergency resources to the limit."

Whatever the response time currently when calling for emergency assistance, should these disruptions take place, that response time will likely be multiplied many times over. With your family's health at stake, colloidal silver as part of your first aid kit makes very good sense.

Sources:

Bioterrorism; Secrets for Survival by Duncan Long