



The Scoop on Ionic Colloidal Silver

Colloidal Silver was used extensively in the early part of this century by the medical profession in the United States for bacterial infections. It is often referred to as nature's antibiotic. It was reported to be expensive to produce and difficult to store, so when antibiotics were developed in the late 1930's they quickly replaced colloidal silver. Here's an intriguing story about the hidden past of colloidal silver in Europe: "During the 1950's the proliferation of Nazi technology in chemical and biological warfare had spread like wildfire around the world. ...

"There is little defense against this kind of attack, and what few antidotes exist are withheld from the public as military secrets. One of the best examples of this is Movidyn, a substance that the Soviets discovered in their satellite state of Czechoslovakia way back in the 1950s. Movidyn is a form of colloidal silver. ... "To the astonishment of the Soviet military, Movidyn also disinfected every germ warfare bacteria in the Soviet arsenal, even the newest designer poisons. In other words, Movidyn was too good. ... To this day, the Movidyn formula seems to have been suppressed from the world, ..."

The Secret War Against the Jews, John Loftus and Mark Aarons, 1994 ISBN #031211057X

How does Ionic Colloidal Silver Work?

The theory is that silver in ionic or colloidal form blocks an enzyme on the cell wall that pathogens require for metabolism and survival. This enzyme is common to viruses, fungi, bacteria, and parasites. It does not affect enzymes required for tissue cells in the body. Colloidal Silver, therefore, is considered a back-up immune system—it disarms bacteria and other pathogens to alleviate wear and tear on the immune system.

Medical Uses of Silver

Since 1884, a dilute silver nitrate solution has been placed in the eyes of newborn infants virtually eliminating a disease that caused blindness in newborns. In 1884, Dr. F. Crede, a German obstetrician was the first to try this solution.

In 1968, silver was combined with sulfadiazine to produce a drug that is 50 times more powerful than sulfadiazine on its own. It has become the most widely used drug for treating burn wounds. Research shows silver promotes the production of new cells so increases the rate of healing in both wounds and bone. Regeneration of whole areas of skin has been accomplished with silver treatments. More recently, two companies have gained government approval for the use of ionic silver in bandages to clear infections—Maersk Medical in England and under the name Silverlon® in the U.S.

The Importance of "Colloidal" and "Ionic"

The body's most important fluids, the blood and lymph, are ionic and colloidal in nature. Therefore, it's easier for the

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body to use and assimilate a substance in these forms. Colloidal simply means a suspension of ultra-fine particles of one substance, suspended by an electric charge in another substance. With ionic colloidal silver, ultra-fine particles of silver are suspended in water. In the ionic form the particles are simply an electronic charge. The particles are so small that size is not a consideration. In this form silver most resembles the form in which minerals are provided by plants. With the colloidal form it is important the particles remain small enough for the body to readily use.

Two methods are known to produce smaller particle sizes as much of the silver is in ionic form:

1. Units based on a constant current.
2. Increasing the conductivity of distilled water by heat rather than by adding salt. When salt is used, silver chloride is formed and the particle size is larger.

What is Argyria?

Argyria is a darkening of the skin. It may develop more easily with larger particle sizes. It seems to start with a darkening of the moons of the fingernails.

Larger particle sizes of silver are considered one cause of argyria. If the particle size is too large for the lymph system to handle, the particles will be eliminated through the skin. When silver is exposed to light, it darkens. Thus argyria.

Will drinking Ionic Colloidal Silver Cause Argyria?

On August 29/03, a woman reported to us that the moons of her fingernails and that of 3 family members were darkening. They had been drinking 8 ounces of Ionic Colloidal Silver—made by heating distilled water—daily for about 4 years. This was the first report we've heard that argyria could result from drinking Ionic Colloidal Silver longer term.

Up to this time, the only reports of argyria we knew about resulted from long-term drinking of colloidal silver made with salt or made using water with a high mineral content.

The BC Ministry of Environment in Canada says: "Populations that are unusually susceptible to toxic effects from silver are those with dietary deficiencies of vitamin E or selenium, or those with genetically-based deficiencies in the metabolism of these essential nutrients. Those populations with damaged livers and those exposed to very high selenium levels in their diet are also at higher risk. Some people may exhibit an allergic response to silver. ... Silver is a disinfectant for non-spore forming bacteria at concentrations about 1000 times lower than the levels at which it is toxic to mammalian life." This quote is from a Water Quality Document dated August 7, 2001. This document was prepared because of the discharge of silver from photo-processing labs and solid state electronics.

It is best not to drink large quantities for long periods of time. It is also important to take breaks from drinking Ionic Colloidal Silver just as we take breaks from other supplements.

Keep in mind that with thousands of people drinking ionic colloidal silver since late in the 20th century, there have been very, very few reports of argyria.

History of Argyria

Reports of toxicity earlier in the 20th century were largely a result of the injection of silver compounds such as silver nitrates, silver iodides and silver bromides. These compounds had larger particle sizes of silver. The lymph system had to find a way to get rid of them—pushing them out through the skin.

Particle Size

When making ionic colloidal silver, as parts per million (PPM) increases, so does particle size.

Some companies producing Ionic Colloidal Silver commercially have developed proprietary formulas that enable them to increase PPM while keeping the particle size small. This is not possible with home units.

Additional References:

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