

Veterinary Newsletter 🛞 Winter 2013



Dear Doctor of Veterinary Medicine,

Happy New Year from Golden Flower Chinese Herbs!

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Sincerely,

John Scott, DOM and Lorena Monda, DOM

ANTI-PATHOGEN FORMULAS

The Chinese Materia Medica has a wealth of herbs to choose for combating pathogens and clearing heat-toxinwhich can present as infections: internal and topical, viral and bacterial, acute inflammation, swelling, heat, or fever. The saying "there are many roads to China" applies to the many paths to clearing heat herbally. Each path will help the situation, but certain paths will get you there faster or more efficiently. This article is to help provide clarity on a few of Golden Flower Chinese Herbs anti-pathogenic formulas, specifically: Andrographis Formula (Chuan Xin Lian Kang Yan Pian), Coptis Relieve Toxicity Formula (Huang Lian Jie Du Pian), Viola Clear Fire Formula (Di Ding Qing Huo Pian) and Wu Hua Formula (Wu Hua *Pian*). In a pinch, any of the above will help with acute heat-toxin attacks. The ability to more finely differentiate, matching the formula to the specific case, will give you more direct results. Long-term use of these formulas is not recommended as the herbs within them are cold in nature and can damage the spleen yang, stomach fire, and blood. Therefore using the most appropiate formula will

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expedite the healing process. The formulas are safe to use as long as the pattern matches, as some types of heat take longer to clear than others. If long term use is needed, the formulas should be balanced by combining them with stomach, spleen, and blood-protecting formulas such as **Six Gentlemen Formula** or **Women's Precious Formula**.

Andrographis Formula

Andrographis Formula (*Chuan Xin Lian Kang Yan Pian*) clears acute heat-toxin in the blood, lymph, and organ levels. Anti-viral, anti-bacterial, anti-inflammatory, it is especially effective treating viruses of the throat, lymph, or liver.

The herb, andrographis *(chuan xin lian)* is bitter and cold and goes to the lung, stomach, large and small intestines. Andrographis *(chuan xin lian)* has shown great effectiveness *in vivo* against certain bacteria while performing less well *in vitro*. This may point to its immune-boosting effects to fight bacteria versus being bacterio-specific. This encourages the use of andrographis *(chuan xin lian)* for various bacterial infections. It also is antipyretic (reduces fever), anti-inflammatory, immune-stimulating (by *continued on page 2*

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increasing the phagocytic activities of white blood cells), as well as hepato-protective (by increasing the weight of the liver as well as bile production/excretion).

The second herb in this formula, isatis root (*ban lan gen*) clears internal and external toxic heat pathogens. It has antipyretic as well as anti-bacterial effects *in vitro* against *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Diplococcus pneumonia*, *Salmonella typhi*, E coli, leptospira and certain influenza viruses. It has shown to stimulate NK (Natural Killer) cells, to boost immunity and has antiplatelet actions. Isatis leaf (*da qing ye*) cools the blood, whereas the root, used in this formula, is stronger for heat-toxin affecting the throat.

Chinese dandelion (*pu gong ying*) clears heat and toxins from the interior (abscesses, nodules, etc.) as well as the ex-

terior (sores, ulcerations, etc). It also eliminates damp-heat, especially in the urinary bladder. Studies have shown great benefits to sore throat and tonsilitis.

COPTIS RELIEVE TOXICITY FORMULA

Coptis Relieve Toxicity Formula (*Huang Lian Jie Du Pian*) clears triple warmer heat, liver heat, blood heat and heart heat.

Gardenia fruit (*zhi zi*) is a bitter, cold herb which goes to the heart (for symptoms such as irritability or restlessness), lung (for carbuncles, abcesses), stomach (for heartburn) and all three *jiaos* (for high fever, delirium). Gardenia fruit (*zhi zi*) stops bleeding by clearing heat and reduces swelling and pain. It is also hepatoprotective and though sources differ on it being guided to the liver channel it is often considered one of the best liver-heat clearing herbs. Gardenia fruit (*zhi zi*) also has marked sedative effects. Tests have shown inhibitory effects

against *Staphylococcus aureus, Neisseria meningitides* and dermatophytes and bactericidal effects against leptospira and schistosoma.

Coptis rhizome (huang lian)—The "three huangs" (huang lian, huang qin, and huang bai) each have a propensity for one of the three jiaos. Coptis (huang lian), very bitter and very cold, is guided to the heart, liver, stomach, and large intestine and is considered to be the huang of the middle jiao. Coptis (huang lian) is excellent for clearing heat and drying dampness, especially while relieving toxin for carbuncles and sores. It has proven broad-spectrum antibiotic effects to which accommodation is minimized, and its antibacterial actions are increased up to tenfold when used in formulas. Coptis (huang lian) also has antifungal and anti-viral (influenza and hepatitis) properties. One component of this herb, berberine, addresses gastrointestinal infections especially well, due to its short half-life

"Coptis Relieve Toxicity would have to be one of my favorite formulas. I think of this as an herbal antibiotic and use it just about anytime I would use an antibiotic. It works great for staph infections on the skin (chronic damp-heat) and combined with a formula for itching, this is a great way to treat allergies in dogs without having to resort to antibiotics and steroids. You can also use this for abscesses, ear infections, anal gland infections, gastrointestinal infections, bloody diarrhea and bladder infections. This formula is very bitter tasting so I usually mask the flavor by coating it in cream cheese or peanut butter." --Deneen Fasano, DVM

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and limited systematic absorption.

Lophatherum (*dan zhu ye*) goes to the heart, stomach, and large intestine for conditions such as stomatitis with thirst, tongue ulcerations, and painful dysuria. Due to its bland and cold nature, it is a diuretic as well.

Scutellaria root (*huang qin*) is guided to the lung, gallbladder, stomach, and large intestine, and is the *huang* of the upper *jiao* (lung). It has a wide spectrum of bacterial inhibitory effects and can potentiate certain antibiotics as well as effectively address some antibiotic-resistant strains.

Phellodendron bark (*huang bai*) enters the kidney, urinary bladder and large intestine, thus, is the *huang* of the lower *jiao*. By combining all three *huangs* into one formula, all

three *jiaos* are addressed and the action of the gardenia fruit is supported. Phellodendron bark (*huang bai*) clears heat, dries dampness, sedates fire, eliminates toxins and clears deficiency heat (though it does not nourish yin).

Chinese rhubarb *(da huang)* clears heat, toxin and quells the flaring up of excess fire (with or without constipation). It serves to guide accumulations out of the body.

VIOLA CLEAR FIRE FORMULA

Viola Clear Fire (*Di Ding Qing Huo Pian*) is anti-viral, anti-fungal, and anti-bacterial. It is used especially for addressing respiratory infections.

Hedyotis *(bai hua she she cao)* enters the stomach, large and small intestines, and clears heat and toxins while reducing abscesses. Its anti-neoplastic properties are enhanced when combined with other heat-toxin clearing herbs, as in this formula.

Houttuynia (yu xing cao) is a broad-

spectrum bacteria inhibitor with some anti-viral properties. Acrid and cool, it goes to the lung and clears heat and toxin as well as draining pus. Used for conditions such as pneumonia, bronchitis, and sinusitis.

Viola (*zi hua di ding*) has broad spectrum antibiotic effects as well as anti-inflammatory and fever-reducing properties. It is guided to the liver and heart and can be used for hot swellings, carbuncles, boils, and furuncles.

Isatis leaf (*da qing ye*) clears heat and toxin at the blood level as seen with maculae, epistaxis, etc. Like the other broad spectrum antibiotic herbs, isatis leaf reduces fever and has anti-inflammatory properties.

Isatis root *(ban lan gen)* and andrographis *(chuan xin lian)* [See **Andropraphis Formula** above for more information.]

Lonicera flower *(jin yin hua)*, another broad spectrum antibiotic, addresses fever and inflammation.

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Prunella fruit spike (*xia ku cao*) enters the liver and gallbladder channels. This herb has the ability to resolve nodules by clearing heat and softening and dispersing qi and phlegm stagnations.

Forsythia fruit (*lian qiao*) is a hepatoprotective, antibiotic, and anti-inflammatory herb, which goes to the lung, heart, and gallbladder. Used for clearing fever and sores from heat.

Tangerine peel *(chen pi)* is a warming herb that helps the digestive system assimilate the cold herbs in this formula

Licorice Root (gan cao) harmonizes the formula's actions.

Coptis rhizome (huang lian) [See Coptis Relieve Toxicity.]

WU HUA FORMULA

Wu Hua Formula (*Wu Hua Pian*) is used to treat dysentery, diarrhea, gastrointestinal inflammation and parasites, and skin disorders from heat in the blood.

Lonicera flower (*jin yin hua*): See Viola Clear Fire above.

Hibiscus Flower (*mu jin hua*) is bitter and sweet and neutral in temperature. It enters the lung and spleen channels to dry dampness and cool blood.

Celosia flower (*ji guan hua*) enters the large intestine and liver to clear heat, cool blood, and stop bleeding. It has the ability to stop diarrhea as well as retain body fluids.

Magnolia flower (*hou po hua*) relieves liver and stomach qi stagnation especially in upper and middle *jiaos*.

Pueraria flower (*ge hua*) is sweet and neutral. This flower enters the stomach channel to relieve fever, irritability, thirst, and chest and abdominal distention by clearing heat and toxin.



CASE STUDY

Female Heeler Mix, 17 years old, spayed, 55 lbs.

CC: Abscess. Complications: occluded airway Dog was found with bilateral facial edema and a hard

swelling in her throat at the level of the larynx. The dog had been seen eating a bone and a possible ingestion/sting of a wasp was assumed. Mass was not tender to the touch initially. Pulses were rapid and wiry. Tongue was dusky.

TCM Pattern: Acute toxic heat in the blood, with qi and blood stagnation.

Treatment: Homeopathic arnica 1 tablet every 3 hours for inflammation and **Andrographis Formula** 2 tablets every four hours were given orally for the first 24 hours. Swelling decreased in the first 12 hours and then increased for the next 12 hours. The morning of the 2nd day *Yunan Baiyao* was administered 1 capsule t.i.d for 4 days with penicillin 1 capsule t.i.d for ten days, continuing arnica and **Andrographis Formula** (*Chuan Xin Lian Kang Yan Pian*).

Hot oatmeal compresses were applied twice a day with Golden Yellow Ointment being applied to the skin. The abscess grew from the 2nd day until the morning of the 4th day where it reached the approximate size of a grapefruit.

Airway obstruction was a concern; the dog was closely monitored and encouraged to sleep upright. Appetite and energy were within normal range. *Shen* disturbance due to pain levels and apparent blindness due to edema compounded geriatric loss of visual acuity.

Abscess began to drain following Golden Yellow/oatmeal compress on the morning of the 4th day. Copious amounts of blood without pus were relieved over a period of approximately 6 hours.

Andrographis Formula (*Chuan Xin Lian Kang Yan Pian*) was decreased to 1 tablet b.i.d for two more days. *Yunan Baiyao* was continued at 1 capsule b.i.d. for two more days.

The remainder of the mass was reabsorbed; the skin over it has resumed normal color and quality and the fur is growing back.

Follow up care includes probiotics to offset antibiotic use as well as **Women's Precious Formula** (*Ba Zhen Tang*) to rebuild blood and qi which were damaged during the treatment of the abscess.

Analysis of results: Andrographis Formula was chosen over other heat-toxin formulas because of the location of the swelling and her advanced age. Chinese dandelion (*pu gong ying*) and isatis root (*ban lan gen*) both show great benefits for the throat and andrographis (*chuan xin lian*) and isatis root (*ban lan gen*) boost immunity against pathogens to assist the *wei* (defensive) qi of this elderly dog. Given the lack of pus (as an indication of infection), this herbal formula did the job of combating infection very effectively. The tablets were easy to administer due to their smooth texture, small size and high concentration ratio, allowing fewer tablets to be used in order to achieve the desired results. The bitter flavors in this formula were easy to mask in food, facilitating administration.

Need help using our formulas? Call us and ask for Jenn!

She can help you with any questions you may have about our formulas and how to use them.

If you have any case studies or insights using Chinese herbs with our animal friends, we would love for you to share them with us at: info@gfcherbs.com



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ACUTONICS FOR DOGS & CATS: SOUND HEALING FOR ANIMAL HEALTH

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