

## **A Brief Primer: What Is Colloidal Silver?**

Colloidal silver is a completely natural, liquid mineral supplement that is sold in virtually every health food store in North America, or can be made quickly and easily with a tiny mechanical device called a colloidal silver generator.

It is much like mineral water, except that in this case, the only mineral content in the water are tiny, sub-microscopic particles of pure silver. Pure silver, by itself, has been known for thousands of years to have powerful, broad-spectrum infection-fighting qualities – even against the most stubborn and deadly of pathogens.

So when the process for making colloidal silver was discovered in the late 1800s shortly after Edison harnessed electricity, it immediately became the most popular natural infection-fighting agent of them all among savvy doctors and clinical researchers. It is completely safe to use internally, for serious deep-seated infections, or even for simple infections like colds and flu. Or it can be used externally on cuts, burns, lacerations and infections.

Colloidal silver is made through a simple electrical process that pulls very tiny sub-microscopic particles of silver from a larger pure silver electrode immersed in water. These tiny invisible silver particles are held in suspension in the resulting solution by the electrical charge left on each atom after being sintered away from the silver electrode.

When ingested, these tiny particles of silver travel throughout your body just like any other mineral supplement before being excreted through your body's normal channels of elimination. However, as the silver particles come into contact with pathogenic microorganisms that are susceptible to silver, the silver rapidly inactivates and kills the microbes, thus preventing them from colonizing, spreading and causing disease. Hence colloidal silver's growing reputation as the world's most powerful natural infection-fighting agent.

**How Does It Work?** - Researchers say pure silver works in three powerful ways: First, it works as a catalyst, disabling the enzyme that single-celled bacteria, fungi and viruses use for respiration and metabolism. Second, much like iron, it is a powerful carrier of oxygen. When it comes into contact with an infectious microbe, it releases an oxygen "burst" which kills the pathogen in much the same manner as hydrogen peroxide. Third, brand new research published in the Journal of Nanobiotechnology has shown that when tiny silver particles were introduced into an *in vitro* solution containing active HIV-1 viruses, the silver particles were able to attach themselves to the DNA of the virus and thus prevent the virus from replicating. This holds tremendous implications for future HIV research, as the potential for being able to stop viral replication means that one day medical scientists may be able to use silver-based medicine to stop the spread of HIV infection altogether!

**Resistant Strains?** - Unlike antibiotics, resistant strains of pathogenic microorganisms have never been known to develop to silver. What's more, recent *in vitro* research from

Brigham Young University, published in the journal of Current Science, has shown that when colloidal silver is added to certain prescription antibiotic drugs, the infection-fighting qualities of the drugs are dramatically heightened against multiple drug resistant pathogens. This has led to speculation that silver will soon be added to antibiotic drugs in order to enhance their effectiveness when dealing with drug-resistant pathogens!

**What Can Colloidal Silver Be Used On?** - Here is a short list of diseases against which colloidal silver has historically been used, according to historical medical texts: acne, allergies, appendicitis, arthritis, bubonic plague, burns (topical silver is one of the few treatments that can keep severe burn patients alive), cancer, candida, cholera, chronic fatigue, colds and flu, Pink Eye, styes and other eye infections, diabetes, gonorrhea, hay fever, herpes, leprosy, leukemia, lupus, lymphangitis, Lyme disease, malaria, meningitis, pneumonia, rheumatism, ringworm, scarlet fever, infections of the ears, mouth and throat, shingles, skin cancer, staph infections, strep infections, syphilis, toxemia, trenchfoot, certain viruses, warts and stomach ulcers. (For additional comprehensive historical and current data on the uses of colloidal silver, see *The Ultimate Colloidal Silver Manual*, 547-pages, Life & Health Research Group, Inc., [www.LifeandHealthResearchGroup.com](http://www.LifeandHealthResearchGroup.com))

**How Is It Used?** - Regular colloidal silver users most often ingest colloidal silver orally. But it can also be sprayed externally onto cuts, scrapes or burns. As a daily mineral supplement, millions of Americans take anywhere from a tablespoon to an ounce a day of a standard 10 ppm concentration of colloidal silver. Others use it only when they are sick or feeling particularly run down. People have been known to take as many as one to 12 ounces a day (or sometimes even more) of a standard 10 ppm solution, for very short periods of time such as a week or two. Users claim that doing so will generally clear up a mild to moderate infection in only a few days, while more serious infections may take longer. Some people put several drops of colloidal silver directly into their eyes, to help eradicate eye infections such as Pink Eye or styes. Some use it in a spray bottle to help eliminate sore throats. Some simply swish it around in their mouth to help prevent or eliminate teeth and gum infections. Others have been known to put a drop or two in their ears to help eliminate ear infections.

**On Vacation?** - Pure silver has been used for thousands of years, by a variety of cultures, for preventing water from becoming bacterially contaminated. The Roman Legions, for example, were said to have placed silver coins in their water containers during long treks into battle, in order to help prevent the spread of bacteria in the water supply. Numerous studies have shown that very small amounts of electrically charged silver particles injected mechanically into city water supplies are effective at keeping levels of fecal coliform and other bacterial contaminants under control.

Because of this, many travelers use colloidal silver to help keep drinking water free of harmful bacterial contamination while on vacation. Others use it in their emergency water storage programs for the same purpose. Users frequently claim that adding one or two ounces of colloidal silver per gallon is all that's needed to keep drinking water from becoming bacterially contaminated, or to kill existing bacterial contamination.

Additionally, many colloidal silver users swear by colloidal silver for use as an antidote for food poisoning while traveling out of the country. Some users suggest that during instances of food poisoning, taking one ounce of colloidal silver every 10 minutes throughout the day until symptoms subside is an effective nutritional remedy. (You should always consult immediately with a licensed and skilled health care practitioner for serious health conditions. Never self-treat.)

**What About Pets?** – Experienced users know colloidal silver has many veterinary uses, such as healing burns and eradicating internal and external infections. It is also widely known as an effective treatment against the dreaded canine parvo virus. To help keep your pet healthy and infection-free, just add a teaspoon to an ounce or so of 10 ppm colloidal silver to your pet's water or wet food on occasion as a nutritional supplement. To help heal external wounds and infections, simply put some 10 ppm colloidal silver into a pump spray bottle, and spray it over the wound several times a day. For serious situations, colloidal silver can be given straight simply by squirting it down your dog or cat's throat with an eye dropper. (Always consult your veterinarian for serious situations).

**Use in the Garden?** -- You'll also find colloidal silver very handy in the garden since it can be used against bacterial, fungal and viral attacks on plants. Simply spray 5 ppm colloidal silver on infected leaves, and add some to the soil at the plant's base as well. Colloidal silver will usually clear up a plant infection, such as tomato blight, in a few short days.

**Where Can It Be Found?** - Colloidal silver is widely available through health food stores and on the internet. There are literally thousands of vendors across the United States and Canada, offering a variety of colloidal silver products for about \$30 for a tiny four-ounce bottle. That's quite expensive, when you consider how quickly a tiny four-ounce bottle might be used up.

Fortunately, you don't have to spend a lot of money to enjoy the phenomenal benefits of colloidal silver. Why? Because you can very easily make your own high-quality colloidal silver, at home, for about *thirty six cents per quart*, using a safe, simple electronic device called a colloidal silver generator. These tiny devices, frequently ranging from palm-sized models for travel and home use, to more sophisticated counter-top models, are available through a number of companies, including our favorite vendor, The Silver Edge, at [www.TheSilverEdge.com](http://www.TheSilverEdge.com).

With a colloidal silver generator, there's no reason to pay upwards of \$30 for a tiny four-ounce bottle of colloidal silver, when you can make your own - for the rest of your life -- for just *pennies per quart*! In fact, with a colloidal silver generator, you can make colloidal silver so inexpensively that you can actually afford to give it away to friends, family members or neighbors. You can even afford to *bathe* in it. In fact, many users simply throw a quart or so of colloidal silver into the bathwater, for its soothing effects on the skin and scalp! Others use it in their spas or hot tubs, in place of chlorine, bromine and other harsh chemicals.

**The Bottom Line:** - For thousands of years silver has been recognized as one of nature's most powerful natural infection-fighting agents. And today, colloidal silver is one of the most popular nutritional supplements in the world.

What's more, if current medical research on silver itself continues to demonstrate how effective it is against drug-resistant pathogens, it may well turn out to be an important part of the solution to today's frightening infectious disease crisis in which multiple drug-resistant pathogens simply no longer respond to traditional prescription antibiotics.

You can read much more about colloidal silver at the *Colloidal Silver Secrets* blogspot: [www.ColloidalSilverSecretsBlogspot.com](http://www.ColloidalSilverSecretsBlogspot.com). Or visit our good friends at The Silver Edge ([www.TheSilverEdge.com](http://www.TheSilverEdge.com)).

Thanks to Life & Health Research Group, Inc. for allowing us to use this article. Copyright 2008. No reproduction of any kind without the expressed written permission of the publisher. Life & Health Research Group, Inc., PO Box 1239, Peoria, AZ 85380, [www.LifeandHealthResearchGroup.com](http://www.LifeandHealthResearchGroup.com)