



Egyptian Herbal Monograph

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## Volume 3

## Herbal Formulations Used in Egypt

Egyptian Drug Authority (EDA)

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## Herbal Formulations Used in Egypt

**White Willo, Fever few**

**صفصاف / منيات**

### 1. Names & Synonyms

**White Willow (1-3)**

*Salix alba* L.

**Syns.:** *Argorips alba* (L.) Raf., *Salix pallida* Salisb.

*S. fragilis* L. (Hybrid) Hybrid formula is *S. alba* x *S. euxina*.

**Family:** Salicaceae (1,3).

**Arabic name:** Safsaaf صفصاف.

**English name:** Willow Bark (2).

**Feverfew (4)**

*Tanacetum parthenium* (L.) Sch. Bip.

**Family:** Asteraceae (Compositae)

**Syns.:** *Chamaemelum parthenium* (L.), J.W. Sturm, *Chrysanthemum parthenium* (L.)

Bernh., *Dendranthema parthenium* (L.) Des Moul., *Matricaria parthenium* L., *Parthenium matricaria* Gesn. ex Rupr., *Pyrethrum parthenium* (L.) Sm.

**Arabic:** Moniat, Monyat منيات (5).

**English name:** Feverfew, Altamisa, featherfew and featherfoil (6-8).

### 2. Parts used for medicinal purpose

**White willow:** Bark (2,3, 9,10).

**Fever few:** Leaves (6-8, 12).

### 3. Major chemical constituents



#### White willow:

- **Salicinoids** (13,14) (**Salicylic glycosides**): mainly salicin beside salicortin, tremulacin (15).
- **Flavonoids: Flavanones** (naringenin; naringenin-5-O-glucoside; naringenin-7-O-glucoside); **chalcones** (isosalipurposide); **flavan-3-ol** (catechin, epicatechin, B type procyanidin (14-16).
- **Others:** Anthocyanins, organic acids (phenolic & aromatic) (13).

#### Feverfew

- **Sesquiterpene lactones:** Parthenolide (8, 17).
- **Volatile oil:** Camphor, camphene, *p*-cymene and bornyl acetate (17).
- **Others:** Flavonoids, coumarins (17), pyrethrin, tannins and melatonin (8).

### 4. Medicinal Uses (Indications)

- A) For prophylaxis of migraine headache after serious conditions have been excluded by a medical doctor.
- B) Relief minor articular pain.
- C) Relief of fever associated with common cold.
- D) Headache.

### 5. Herbal preparations correlated to medicinal use

Combination of white willow powder extract, feverfew powder extract, vitamin C, vitamin B6.

- **Herbal preparations are in pharmaceutical dosage forms. The pharmaceutical form should be described by the pharmacopoeia full standard term.**

### 6. Posology and method of administration correlated to medicinal use

**Adults and elderly**



50 mg of white willow extract, 50mg of fever few extract, 41.3 vitamin C and 1 mg vitamin B6.

**Duration of use:** Not more than 1 week,

**Method of administration:** Oral use.

## 7. Contraindications. (1,2, 9)

- Hypersensitivity to the active substance(s) or to other plants of the same families.
- In patients with salicylate intolerance or other NSAIDs (e.g. history of angioedema, bronchial spasm or chronic urticaria in response to salicylates or to other NSAIDs).
- In patients with asthma.
- The use in children and adolescents under 18 years of age.
- Contraindicated with active peptic ulcer, glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency, severe liver or renal dysfunction, coagulation disorders.

## 8. Special warnings and precautions for use (2, 3, 10, 18)

- If the symptoms persist or worsen during the use of medicinal product a physician should be consulted.
- Do not exceed the stated dose
- Patients who take the medicinal product for migraine should have been previously diagnosed by the physician
- Long term users of the medicinal product who stop treatment suddenly may experience withdrawal symptoms including rebound headaches, anxiety, difficulty sleeping, muscle stiffness and joint pain (19).

## 9. Interactions with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction



- The product may increase the effects of anticoagulants such as coumarin derivatives (1-3).
- Concurrent administration of the product with other salicylate-containing products, such as aspirin, should be avoided (3).
- Irritant effects of salicylates on the gastrointestinal tract may be increased by alcohol.
- Barbiturates and oral sedatives have been documented to increase salicylate toxicity as well as masking the symptoms of overdose (3).

#### 10. Fertility, pregnancy and lactation

- The use during pregnancy and lactation is avoided. It is reputed to be an abortifacient and to affect the menstrual cycle (2,3,6,8).
- No fertility data available.

#### 11. Effects on ability to drive and use machines

No studies on the effect on the ability to drive and use machines have been performed.

#### 12. Undesirable effects

- Allergic reactions such as rash, pruritis, urticaria, asthma, exanthema (1,2, 7).
- In rare cases, allergic contact dermatitis, mouth ulceration or tongue irritation and inflammation may occur (18).
- Gastrointestinal symptoms such as, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea Dyspepsia and heartburn, may occur (1,2, 7).
- If adverse reactions occur, a doctor or a pharmacist should be consulted.

#### 13. Overdose

- No case of overdose has been reported.

#### 14. Relevant biological activities

Not required as per Egyptian guidelines for registration of herbal medicines.



## 15. Additional information

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## 16. Date of compilation/last revision

20/4/2026

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