



Egyptian Herbal Monograph

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Volume 3

Herbal Formulations Used in Egypt

Egyptian Drug Authority (EDA)

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Fever few, White Willow, Vitamin C, Vitamin B6

منيات / صفصاف / فيتامين ج / فيتامين ب6

1. Names & Synonyms

Feverfew (1)

***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 (2).

English: Feverfew, Altamisa, featherfew and featherfoil (3-5).

White Willow (6-8)

***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 (6,8).

Arabic: Safsaaf صفصاف.

English: Willow Bark (7).

2. Parts used for medicinal purpose

Fever few: Leaves (3-5, 9).

White willow: Bark (7,8, 10,11).



3. Major chemical constituents

Feverfew

- **Sesquiterpene lactones:** Parthenolide (5, 12).
- **Volatile oil:** Camphor, camphene, *p*-cymene and bornyl acetate (12).
- **Others:** Flavonoids, coumarins (12), pyrethrin, tannins and melatonin (5).

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).

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 feverfew powder extract, white willow powder extract, vitamin C, and 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:

Combination of 50 mg of feverfew extract, 50 mg of white willow extract, 41.3 mg of vitamin C, and 1 mg of vitamin B6.

Duration of use: Not more than 1 week,

Method of administration: Oral use.

7. Contraindications. (6,7, 10)

- 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 (7, 8, 11, 17)

- 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 (18).



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

- The product may increase the effects of anticoagulants such as coumarin derivatives (6-8).
- Concurrent administration of the product with other salicylate-containing products, such as aspirin, should be avoided (8).
- 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 overdosage (8).

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 (3,5,7,8).
- 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 (4,6, 7).
- In rare cases, allergic contact dermatitis, mouth ulceration or tongue irritation and inflammation may occur (17).
- Gastrointestinal symptoms such as, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea Dyspepsia and heartburn, may occur (4,6, 7).
- If adverse reactions occur, a doctor or a pharmacist should be consulted.

13. Overdose

No case of overdose has been reported.



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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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