

THE ANALYSIS OF CHOICE OF MEDICINAL HERBAL COMPOSITIONS ON THE UKRAINIAN MARKET FOR THE TREATMENT OF DISEASES OF THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM

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The number of people suffering from the diseases of gastrointestinal tract is over than 8 million in Ukraine nowadays. Over the past 5 years, the prevalence of digestive system diseases has grown by almost 25%. Leading positions in the structure of diseases of the digestive system are given to gastritis, duodenitis, peptic ulcer of the stomach and duodenum, cholecystitis and pancreatitis, mainly in chronic conditions. The modern pharmaceutical market suggests the number of medicinal plants compositions used for the treatment of different diseases of gastrointestinal tract. We wanted to analyze the choice of plant medications available for patients with mentioned diseases, the directions of the usage of these medications and to identify the limitations in their prescribing and the reasons of this.

There is a well known composition *Желудочный* produced by *Lubnypharm* containing German Chamomile flowers (*Chamomillae flores*), Marigold flower (*Calendulae flores*), St. John's wort herb (*Hyperici herba*), and Peppermint (*Menthae piperitae folium*), which is used for the dyspeptic disorders, gastric and duodenal ulcer.

The composition *Збір шлунковий №3* produced by *Ліктрави* that contains Peppermint (*Menthae piperitae folium*), Buckthorn bark (*Frangulae cortex*), Nettle leaf (*Urticae folia*), Valerian root (*Valerianae radix*) is prescribed for the treatment of diseases of gallbladder and bile ducts as well as for constipation. The decoction of *Збір шлунковий №3* due to the content of biologically active substances has an irritating effect on the receptors of the intestine and gastric mucosa. Its complex action is aimed at optimizing the gastrointestinal motility process and eliminating spasms and inflammations, showing some laxative and choleretic effects.

Spasmolytic and choleretic effects are declared to be the main for the gastro-duodenal tea *Phytogastrol* by the same producer. The composition contains Calamus rhizome (*Calami rhizomata*), Peppermint (*Menthae piperitae folium*), Liquorice root (*Glycyrrhizae radices*), and Dill fruits (*Anethi graveolentis fructus*). It is administered for different diseases of gastro intestinal tract and liver but only in combination with other medications. In the same time it is contraindicated for stomach ulcer and duodenal ulcer in their acute conditions.

There is a composition *Цадіфім* by *Ліктрави* containing Topinambur tubers (*Helianthi tubera*), Stevia leaf (*Steviae folia*), Blueberry shoots (*Myrtilli cormus*), Kidney-bean Pods (*Phaseoli pericarpium*), Chinese tea (*Thea chinensis*), Peppermint (*Menthae piperitae folium*), which main indication is sugar diabetes of 2nd type but colitis, pancreatitis and cholecystitis are additional indications, in the complex therapy.

The composition *Gastrophyt* by *AIM* is a mean of phytotherapy of diseases of the digestive system and is a collection, which includes 15 medicinal plant materials, namely: Calamus rhizome (*Calami rhizomata*), Marshmallow root (*Althaeae radix*), Helichrysum flowers (*Helichrysi arenarii flores*), Elder flowers (*Sambuci flores*), St. John's wort herb (*Hyperici herba*), Marigold flower (*Calendulae flores*), Nettle leaf (*Urticae folia*), Peppermint (*Menthae piperitae folium*), Wormwood herb (*Absinthii herba*), German Chamomile flowers (*Chamomillae flores*), Pagoda Tree fruit

(Sophorae japonicae fructus), Liquorice root (Glycyrrhizae radices), Yarrow herb (Millefolii herba), Sage leaf (Salviae folia), and Dog Rose fruits (Rosae fructus). *Gastrophyt* is indicated for chronic gastritis with normal or reduced acid-forming function of the stomach; duodenitis, colitis, gastric ulcer and duodenal ulcer treatment and the prevention of recurrence, and functional dyspepsia.

The producer *Екопродукт* suggests the composition *Шлунковий* containing Fennel fruit (Foeniculi fructus), Peppermint (Menthae piperitae folium), St. John's wort herb (Hyperici herba), Yarrow herb (Millefolii herba), Buckthorn bark (Frangulae cortex), which is indicated for chronic gastritis and cholecystitis, biliary dyskinesia, constipation, and dyspeptic disorders combined with the gastric cramps.

The analysis of the compositions mentioned above shows that medicinal plants used as their components belong to several botanical families among them it is possible to highlight the next families presenting several plants: Asteraceae (German Chamomile, Marigold, Helichrysum, Wormwood, Yarrow, Topinambur, Stevia), Lamiaceae (Peppermint, Nettle, Sage), Fabaceae (Liquorice, Kidney-bean, Pagoda Tree), Apiaceae (Dill, Fennel). The families Acoraceae (Calamus), Hypericaceae (St. John's wort), Malvaceae (Marshmallow), Rhamnaceae (Buckthorn), Valerianaceae (Valerian), Ericaceae (Blueberry), Theaceae (Tea), Adoxaceae (Elder), Rosaceae (Dog Rose) are presented by one representative from each one.

We consider that it can be rational to suggest the increased usage of the medicinal plants from the families Asteraceae and Lamiaceae taking into consideration their wide usage in the folk medicine for the treatment of digestive system diseases. Namely, it can be effective to add Tansy flowers, Elecampane rhizome and root; and Oregano herb, Wild Thyme herb to the composition.

Flowers of Tansy contain flavonoids, tannins, phenolcarboxylic acids, essential oils, lactones, alkaloids. The plant material has choleric, spasmolytic and anti-inflammatory effects, improves the digestion.

Elecampaine rhizomes and roots contain essential oil (1-4%), polysaccharide inulin (up to 44%), vitamin E, saponins. The plant has astringent, choleric, antiseptic properties, in folk medicine it is prescribed for hypoacidic gastritis and spasmodic colitis.

The herb of Wild Thyme contains essential oil (0.5-1%), flavonoids, up to 7% of tannins. Has an antiseptic, analgesic and sedative effect.

The herb of Oregano is rich in volatile oil (about 1.5%) containing phenolic compounds such as carvacrol and thymol, acyclic monoterpenoids such as geraniol and linalool; also tannins, and ascorbic acid. Oregano herb has spasmolytic, choleric, anti-inflammatory, and antiseptic effects.

The usage of the plant medications for the treatment of digestive system presented on the Ukrainian market is limited by the diseases in chronic state. There are also no compositions administered for hyperacidic gastritis and the compositions with efficacy in monotherapy.

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