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CPE article 6: ginseng–drug interactions



Pharmacists This unit is worth half-an-hour CPE credit. ACPP members and CPE self-assessment program subscribers can read the Ginseng–Drug Interactions article, then circle the appropriate answers and complete the form below the questions, using a black pen. Photocopy the page and **fax** it to **the Australian College of Pharmacy Practice on 02 6273 8988**, or **post** to: **ACPP, PO Box 7007, CANBERRA BC ACT 2610**. Or, complete the unit **online: www.acpp.edu.au**.

Be prompt – ACPP must receive your answers by 15 November. Answers will be printed in the next *JCM* [Vol 2{6}] in Nov/Dec.

Q Select the most appropriate answer to the following questions. More than one answer may be correct.

1 Interactions between ginseng and many drugs

- a) are adequately supported by controlled clinical trials
- b) are based largely on pharmacological and adverse event data
- c) have no clinical or theoretical basis
- d) none of the above

2 Analysis of ginseng or ginseng-containing products associated with drug interaction events is not necessary because

- a) all ginseng species and their related products contain comparable active constituent profiles
- b) misidentification of ginseng species has not been known to occur
- c) there is never a possibility that adulteration of a product has occurred
- d) none of the above

3 Ginseng–warfarin interactions

- a) do not appear to be clinically significant based on the available evidence
- b) may lead to a decrease in INR and possible thrombotic event
- c) are difficult to interpret due to contradictory experimental and clinical findings
- d) all of the above

4 Which of the following statements is true?

- a) It is likely that ginseng will significantly affect the metabolism of drugs metabolised by cytochrome P450 enzymes
- b) Ginseng’s effect on cytochrome P450 enzymes is difficult to assess due to conflicting *in-vivo* and *in-vitro* evidence and variation in the botanical species or isolated constituents investigated
- c) Ginseng has no effect on cytochrome P450-mediated drug metabolism
- d) a, b, and c are all false

5 The clinical utility of ginseng–drug interaction studies is influenced by:

- a) the route by which ginseng is administered (e.g. oral, topical, intraperitoneal)
- b) investigation of whole ginseng extracts vs. individual constituents
- c) variation in dosage regimen
- d) all of the above

CPE ARTICLE 4 ANSWERS: liquorice interactions
JCM 2003;2(4):43 – JULY/AUGUST 2003

1. d 2. d 3. c 4. d 5. d

Your details – please print clearly or type

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PROGRAM EVALUATION –

Your comments on our CPE article are appreciated

Relevance of this topic

very good good fair poor

Accuracy of the article

very good good fair poor

Education value

very good good fair poor

How many minutes did it take you to complete this unit?

< 30 min 30–60 61–90 > 90

Please tick one

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