**Health Professional Summary: FIGWORT**

**ROUTE OF ADMINISTRATION:** oral

**DOSAGE FORM / STRENGTH:** Tablet of 500 mg of a 4:1 extract, equivalent to 2 g of the dried aerial parts of Figwort (*scrophularia nodosa*)

**NON MEDICINAL INGREDIENT:** Nutrateric®: proprietary enteric coating

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**THE ENTERIPHYTE Nutrateric® ADVANTAGE**

EnteriPhyte’s Figwort from CuraPhyte Technologies is coated with a proprietary enteric coating (*Nutrateric®*).

Enteric-coated tablets are used to maintain efficacy despite exposure to gastric acids, since many herbal ingredients are considered unstable in gastric juices. Gastric digestion has been shown to decrease the potency of *scrophularia nodosa*. This coating allows for a delayed-release in the small intestines in order to prolong the period of exposure of the drug’s benefits. The enteric coating also acts to protect the patient by minimizing adverse effects, such as GI upset and digestive distress.

**INDICATIONS**

Figwort is indicated for the treatment of chronic pain in cases with swollen joints. Figwort is also used as an analgesic and for the relief of symptoms including chronic cutaneous diseases, eczema, psoriasis, and pruritus.

**MODE OF ACTION**

Figwort has anti-inflammatory and analgesic activity and drains the lymphatic system.

- Studies have attempted to explain part of the mechanism of action and associate the pharmacological activity to specific active ingredients in Figwort. Iridoid glycosides, such as aucubin and catalpol, were identified.¹
- The anti-inflammatory mechanism of action of the iridoid glycoside aucubin has been extensively studied. Aucubin suppressed both mRNA for Tumor Necrosis Factor- alpha (TNF-alpha) and the production of TNF-alpha.²
- The antispasmodic activity of the iridoids aucubin and catalpol was also demonstrated in vitro.³

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• Other studies demonstrated that the iridoid glycoside aucubin possessed significant antinociceptive and anti-inflammatory activities\(^4\). Iridoid glycosides are well known to alleviate pain via its antinociceptive and anti-inflammatory activities.
• The flavonoids of Figwort are potent inhibitors of prostaglandin E2 (PGE2) and thromboxane A2 (TXA2) as well as being inhibitors of leukocyte activation migration and adhesion. These compounds cause a significant decrease in plasma levels of endothelial adhesion molecules and reduces neutrophil activation, thus providing protection against microcirculatory\(^5\)\(^6\)\(^7\) damage.

**CONTRAINDICATIONS**

Do not use during pregnancy or breastfeeding as lack of evidence does not support safe use.

**PRECAUTIONS**

Use cautiously in patients with heart disease.

**KNOWN ADVERSE EVENTS**

None reported.

**STORAGE**

Figwort tablets should be stored at room temperature (15 to 25 degrees Celsius).

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\(^5\) Ramelet AA. Clinical benefits of Daflon 500 mg in the most severe stages of chronic ve-nous insufficiency. *Angiology* 2001;52:S49-S56.
