

PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITION CONTAINING EPHEDRAE HERBA FOR TREATING BRONCHITIS AND PREPARATION METHOD THEREOF

Technical Field of the Invention

5 The invention belongs to the field of Traditional Chinese Medicine, in particular to a pharmaceutical composition for treatment of bronchitis and preparation methods thereof.

Background of the Invention

10 Bronchitis is an inflammation in the mucous membrane of trachea and bronchi due to bacterial and viral infections, or stimulations by physical and chemical factors. Typically, it is mainly characterized by cough, expectoration, substernal malaise or pain, panting, and accompanying common symptom of cold. According to the disease duration, bronchitis can be classified into two categories: the acute tracheobronchitis, and the chronic bronchitis. The acute tracheobronchitis is a bronchitis which generally lasts for no
15 more than one month and results in pathological changes only localized at the mucous membrane which can be completely restored in both of its structure and function after recovery. It may occur at any age and mostly in spring and winter. Bronchitis belongs to the categories of "cough", "phlegm-fluid retention", "asthma syndrome", etc, in the Traditional Chinese Medicine.

20 The acute tracheobronchitis is often caused by infection of the upper respiratory tract by viruses or bacteria, or by physical-chemical allergic stimuli. In patients of above 10 years old suffering from the acute tracheobronchitis, infections by influenza virus, respiratory syncytial virus and adenovirus are most common. This disease is also one of the most common non-hospital diseases and one of the top ten diseases in need of
25 receiving medical treatment. There were 2.5 million Americans who received medical treatment due to the disease in 1998. Patients have to go to hospitals and receive treatment due to their normal work and lives being disturbed by frequent cough. Costs for treatment of acute tracheobronchitis are considerable. Averagely, each patient may be treated with two drugs and unable to work normally for 2 to 3 weeks.

30 The disease relates to various etiological factors. It may be caused by a direct infection of viruses or bacteria, or by an infection of viruses or bacteria spreading from acute upper respiratory tract infection; and may also be caused by an acute stimulation from such as over cold air, dust, an irritant gas or fumes to tracheal-bronchial mucus membrane; or by an allergen-induced allergic inflammatory response in trachea and
35 bronchi. At present, the therapy from the Western Medicine focuses on symptomatic treatment and infection control. In the "Guidance For Rational Use Of Antibiotics In Acute

Respiratory Tract Infections (For Trial)” issued in 2000 by the Subspecialty Group of Respiratory Diseases, the Society of Pediatrics, Chinese Medical Association, it is emphasized that the acute tracheobronchitis is the disease just after the upper respiratory tract infection (URI) for which antibiotics abuse usually occurs. In abroad, the acute tracheobronchitis is included into the cough illnesses and the major etiological factor for the disease is determined to be viruses or reactive airway diseases. Therefore, a patient with the course of the disease of less than 7 days has rarely indications applicable to antibiotic therapy. In addition, due to extensive application of antibacterials, drug-resistant strains emerge continually and a part of the pathogenic bacteria display multiple resistances to various antibacterials, which results in poor efficacy of antibiotics against the infection.

The treatment of acute tracheobronchitis has been a quit long history in Traditional Chinese Medicine. Systematical discussions on the issues of cough such as pathogenesis, symptoms and syndromes classification, pathological outcome and treatment can be found as early in Huangdi’s Internal Classics. Continuous exploration has been lasting over generations of physicians on principles, methods, prescriptions and drugs for treatment of cough by Traditional Chinese Medicine. It is shown by the modern pharmacological investigation that treatment of cough by Traditional Chinese Medicine embodies various therapeutic approaches. The prescription of Traditional Chinese Medicine can not only exert effects of checking cough, eliminating phlegm, and relieving asthma, but also have effects of clearing heat, relieving pain, and resisting inflammation, as well as significantly relieve symptoms such as cough and expectoration. In addition, it has less adverse reactions in comparison with Western pharmaceuticals and is suitable for cases lacking of indications for antibiotic therapy, and particularly suitable for cases showing multiple resistances to antibiotics.

Therefore, there is still a need in developing novel Traditional Chinese Medicine prescriptions for treatment of acute tracheobronchitis.

Summary of the Invention

To meet the need mentioned above, the present invention provides an EPHEDRAE HERBA-containing pharmaceutical composition for treatment of bronchitis and a preparation method thereof. The pharmaceutical composition of the present invention is made from the medicinal materials in the following parts by weight:

EPHEDRAE HERBA 52-86	GYPSUM FIBROSUM 194-324	FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS 194-324	SCUTELLARIAE RADIX 78-130
MORI CORTEX 194-324	ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM	PEUCEDANI RADIX 78-130	PINELLIAE RHIZOMA 78-130

	78-130		
CITRI RETICULATAE	FRITILLARIAE	ARCTII FRUCTUS	LONICERAE FLOS
PERICARPIUM	THUNBERGII BULBUS	78-130	78-130
78-130	78-130		
RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA	PLATYCODONIS RADIX	and GLYCYRRHIZAE	
39-65	46-76	RADIX ET RHIZOMA	
		39-65.	

(Note: the above Latin names of the medicinal materials are according to Chinese Pharmacopoeia, Jan., 2010.)

Preferably, the pharmaceutical composition of the present invention is made from the medicinal materials in the following parts by weight:

EPHEDRAE HERBA	GYPSUM FIBROSUM	FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS	SCUTELLARIAE RADIX
52	324	194	78
MORI CORTEX	ARMENIACAE SEMEN	PEUCEDANI RADIX	PINELLIAE RHIZOMA
194	AMARUM	78	130
	130		
CITRI RETICULATAE	FRITILLARIAE	ARCTII FRUCTUS	LONICERAE FLOS
PERICARPIUM	THUNBERGII BULBUS	130	130
78	78		
RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA	PLATYCODONIS RADIX	and GLYCYRRHIZAE	
39	76	RADIX ET RHIZOMA	
		65.	

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More preferably, the pharmaceutical composition of the present invention is made from the medicinal materials in the following parts by weight:

EPHEDRAE HERBA	GYPSUM FIBROSUM	FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS	SCUTELLARIAE RADIX
86	194	324	130
MORI CORTEX	ARMENIACAE SEMEN	PEUCEDANI RADIX	PINELLIAE RHIZOMA
324	AMARUM	130	78
	78		
CITRI RETICULATAE	FRITILLARIAE	ARCTII FRUCTUS	LONICERAE FLOS
PERICARPIUM	THUNBERGII BULBUS	78	130
130	130		
RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA	PLATYCODONIS RADIX	and GLYCYRRHIZAE	
65	46	RADIX ET RHIZOMA	
		39.	

10 Alternatively, the pharmaceutical composition is made from the medicinal materials in the following parts by weight:

EPHEDRAE HERBA	GYPSUM FIBROSUM	FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS	SCUTELLARIAE RADIX
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69	259	259	104
MORI CORTEX	ARMENIACAE SEMEN	PEUCEDANI RADIX	PINELLIAE RHIZOMA
259	AMARUM	104	104
	104		
CITRI RETICULATAE	FRITILLARIAE	ARCTII FRUCTUS	LONICERAE FLOS
PERICARPIUM	THUNBERGII BULBUS	104	104
104	104		
RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA	PLATYCODONIS RADIX	and GLYCYRRHIZAE	
52	61	RADIX ET RHIZOMA	
		52.	

Alternatively, the pharmaceutical composition is made from the medicinal materials in the following parts by weight:

EPHEDRAE HERBA	GYPSUM FIBROSUM	FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS	SCUTELLARIAE RADIX
55	254	318	107
MORI CORTEX	ARMENIACAE SEMEN	PEUCEDANI RADIX	PINELLIAE RHIZOMA
203	AMARUM	82	105
	107		
CITRI RETICULATAE	FRITILLARIAE	ARCTII FRUCTUS	LONICERAE FLOS
PERICARPIUM	THUNBERGII BULBUS	122	113
84	125		
RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA	PLATYCODONIS RADIX	and GLYCYRRHIZAE	
42	60	RADIX ET RHIZOMA	
		50.	

5 Alternatively, the pharmaceutical composition is made from the medicinal materials in the following parts by weight:

EPHEDRAE HERBA	GYPSUM FIBROSUM	FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS	SCUTELLARIAE RADIX
84	313	298	98
MORI CORTEX	ARMENIACAE SEMEN	PEUCEDANI RADIX	PINELLIAE RHIZOMA
274	AMARUM	116	123
	105		
CITRI RETICULATAE	FRITILLARIAE	ARCTII FRUCTUS	LONICERAE FLOS
PERICARPIUM	THUNBERGII BULBUS	80	99
95	88		
RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA	PLATYCODONIS RADIX	and GLYCYRRHIZAE	
63	55	RADIX ET RHIZOMA	
		43.	

For the medicinal materials used in the pharmaceutical composition of the present invention, PINELLIAE RHIZOMA is preferably PINELLIAE RHIZOMA PRAEPARATUM

CUM ALUMINE and ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM is preferably ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM TOSTUM (the Latin name is according to Standard of Chinese Herbal Pieces of Shanxi Province, Feb., 2008).

EPHEDRAE HERBA and GYPSUM FIBROSUM in the pharmaceutical composition of the present invention are principal drugs. EPHEDRAE HERBA is warm in nature, pungent and bitter in taste, and enters the Lung and Urinary Bladder channels. It is described in Shen Nong's Herbal that "EPHEDRAE HERBA relieves exterior syndrome by diaphoresis, clears the pathogenic heat qi and checks cough with asthma." It is also described in Materia medica of Justice that "EPHEDRAE HERBA is light, clearing and floating in nature, specializes in removing pulmonary stagnation and facilitating the functional activity of qi and is the most essential drug for treating cold. Although EPHEDRAE HERBA is offered to release the exterior, it actually ventilates the lung. Although EPHEDRAE HERBA is offered to disperse cold, it actually expels the pathogenic factors. Therefore, wind-cold is always dispelled outwardly by EPHEDRAE HERBA, that is, warm-heat is always promoted by EPHEDRAE HERBA." EPHEDRAE HERBA in the prescription is used to ventilate the lung, thus facilitating the flow of stagnant qi in the lung, and to clear the heat in the lung in combination with GYPSUM FIBROSUM. GYPSUM FIBROSUM is pungent and sweet in taste, cold in nature, and enters the Lung and Stomach Channels. It is described in Ben Cao Jing Shu that "the pungent taste of GYPSUM FIBROSUM can be useful for releasing the muscle, and its sweet taste for relieving the pathogenic heat. Therefore, GYPSUM FIBROSUM can be used to eliminate the serious heat due to its extreme cold property and its pungent and sweet tastes." GYPSUM FIBROSUM specializes in clearing heat and removing fire and can be useful for clearing heat in the lung in combination with EPHEDRAE HERBA. If heat is cleared, the production of phlegm will not be facilitated any more. Since the EPHEDRAE HERBA and the GYPSUM FIBROSUM is compatible with each other to ventilate the lung and clear away heat, they together act as the principal drugs.

FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS, SCUTELLARIAE RADIX, MORI CORTEX, ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM, and PEUCEDANI RADIX in the pharmaceutical composition of the present invention are minister drugs. FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS is bitter in taste and cold in nature. It can externally relieve the muscle and the surface, and internally clear the stagnant heat, "has the capacity of floating and dissipating can relieve the exterior syndromes through the muscle, clear heat and expel the wind. It is the essential drug for wind-heat pathogen" (Yi Xue Zhong Zhong Can Xi Lu). The heat-clearing, detoxication, lung-clearing and exterior-thrusting functions of the FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS is used in the prescription. SCUTELLARIAE RADIX is bitter in taste, cold in nature, enters the Lung Channel, acts on clearing away heat and drying

dampness, punging fire for detoxication. SCUTELLARIAE RADIX specializes in clearing away pulmonary heat, for which Dan Xi had stated that “since SCUTELLARIAE RADIX serves for descending the phlegm, it can be used to dissipate fire” . The effect of clearing pulmonary heat will be enhanced with the aid of GYPSUM FIBROSUM. MORI CORTEX is sweet in taste, cold in nature, and enters the Lung and Spleen Channels. MORI CORTEX has functions of clearing the lung and resolving phlegm, as well as descending *qi* and relieving asthma, which is described in Bie Lu: “removing the dampness in the lung, spitting blood, pyretic thirst, edema and abdominal fullness, belly swelling, regulating *waterway* and expelling the taenia”. SCUTELLARIAE RADIX and MORI CORTEX enhance the effect of GYPSUM FIBROSUM in clearing phlegm-heat in the lung. ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM is mild warm in nature, slightly bitter in taste, enters the Lung and large Intestinal Channels, and serves for checking cough and relieving asthma. ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM is effective in checking cough and relieving asthma by purge and directing *qi* downward, “specializing in directing *qi* downward, wherein the phlegm is eliminated and cough is checked upon *qi* is directed downward”(Ben Cao Bian Du). PEUCEDANI RADIX is bitter and pungent in taste, mild cold in nature, enters the Lung Meridian, and serves for directing *qi* downward, dispelling phlegm, and clearing wind-heat. In Compendium of Materia Medica, it has been described to “clear pulmonary heat, resolving phlegm-heat, dispersing pathogenic wind”, and further described that “it specializes in directing *qi* downward, and thus can be used to treat diseases such as asthma, cough induced by phlegm-heat and diaphragm stuffiness with hiccup. When *qi* is directed downward, the fire is removed and the phlegm is resolving”. The combination of ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM and PEUCEDANI RADIX (specializing in lowering) with EPHEDRAE HERBA (specializing in lifting) enhances the dispersing and descending functions of the lung. These five herbs function together as minister drugs to facilitate the pulmonary-heat-clearing effect of the principal drugs by relieving both the interior and exterior, and descending *qi* and dispelling phlegm.

PINELLIAE RHIZOMA, CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM, FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS, ARCTII FRUCTUS, LONICERAE FLOS, and RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA in the pharmaceutical composition of the present invention are assistant drugs. PINELLIAE RHIZOMA is pungent in taste, warm in nature, serves for eliminating dampness by dryness, resolving phlegm and calming the adverse-rising energy. In Yao Xing Lun, PINELLIAE RHIZOMA is described to specializing in “dispersing phlegm, descending lung *qi*, increasing appetite and invigorating spleen, and dissipating excessive phlegm in the chest”, that is, PINELLIAE RHIZOMA is the essential drug for resolving phlegm and calming the adverse-rising energy and exerts its efficacy downward to direct the damp phlegm in the lung and stomach moving downward. CITRI RETICULATAE

PERICARPIUM is pungent and bitter in taste, warm in nature, and serves for regulating *qi* and resolving phlegm. “Tangerine pericarp (CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM) mainly acts on the agglomerated heat and the adverse flow of *qi* in the chest, the pungent taste is capable of dispersing, the bitter taste purging, and the warm property moving, thus descending the adversely rising *qi*, preventing vomit and checking cough, eventually dissipating the agglomerated heat in the chest (Ben Cao Jing Shu)”. CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM is the common herb for treating stagnation of dampness-phlegm, impairment of dispersing and descending function of the lung, cough, excessive phlegm, and *qi* regurgitating. The combination of PINELLIAE RHIZOMA and CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM assist the principal and minister drugs to reinforce the phlegm-resolving effect. FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS is bitter in taste, cold in nature, enters Lung and Heart channels, and often used to treat cough of stagnated phlegme-heat type due to its more bitterness and coldness, potent purging power, stronger effects of clearing away fire and dispersing masses. It is used in the prescription to facilitate ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM and PEUCEDANI RADIX to resolve phlegm and check cough. ARCTII FRUCTUS is pungent in taste, bitter in taste, mild cool in nature, and specialize in dispersing wind-heat pathogen, and it is described in Ben Cao Jing Shu that: “aversion to the excess, a primary herb for dispersing wind, removing heat and detoxicating”. LONICERAE FLOS is cold in nature and able to clear heat and detoxicate. It is described in Chong Qing Tang Sui Bi that “LONICERAE FLOS clears away the wind-fire and excessive heat in the collaterals and eliminate evils such as pest, filthy, and turbid.” The herb enters the Lung Channel. It is able to clear heat and detoxicate, and also to clear the lung and promoting perspiration. Being pungent and cold in taste and no harmful to *Yin*, LONICERAE FLOS assists FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS to attain perspiration, heat-clearing and detoxication with pungent and cool properties. The RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA is bitter in taste, cold in nature, serves for unblocking the bowels and punging the heat. Due to the lung and the large intestine being interior-exteriorly related, lung *qi* descends spontaneously upon bowel *qi* is purged. Thus, the combination of RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA and EPHEDRAE HERBA results in relieving both of the exterior and interior.

PLATYCODONIS RADIX and GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA in the pharmaceutical composition of the present invention are guide drugs. PLATYCODONIS RADIX serves for clearing lung *qi* and dispelling phlegm and thus assists EPHEDRAE HERBA in clearing lung *qi*. Moreover, “PLATYCODONIS RADIX is a herb for clearing and lifting lung *qi* and able to act as a carrier for various herbs” (Ben Cao Qiu Zhen). The herb transports the various herbal ingredients to reach the pathological site, thus serving as an assistant-guide drug. GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA is used in its crude form for

two reasons. The first reason is that GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA as an assistant drug is sweet and neutral in nature, can enter the Lung Channel and has an effect of moisturizing the lung, checking cough and relieving asthma. The second reason is that as a guide drug, “GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA plays a role of a senior coordinator for a variety of herbs” and can attemper the drugs of the prescription, thus also serves as an assistant and guide drug.

In conclusion, the combined use of the medicinal substances constituting the pharmaceutical composition of the present invention results in clearing phlegm-heat in lung, dispersing stagnated lung *qi*, and normalizing dispersing and descending function of the lung, thereby removing phlegm and checking cough.

In the light of the present invention and in combination with the common sense in the field, those skilled in the art may replace any of the individual components in the pharmaceutical composition of the present invention with other Chinese medicinal material having same or similar efficacies as the replaced component in the present pharmaceutical composition.

The pharmaceutical composition of the present invention can be prepared with the conventional preparation method in the art. For example, the various medicinal substances can be processed in accordance with “Standard for Processing Traditional Chinese Medicinal Substances” or “Traditional Chinese Medicine Dictionary”. The pharmaceutical composition of the present invention can be prepared preferably with the following method:

(1) weighing FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS according to the part set forth in the prescription and pulverizing the same into fine powder for later use;

(2) weighing EPHEDRAE HERBA, FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS, SCUTELLARIAE RADIX, ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM, PINELLIAE RHIZOMA, ARCTII FRUCTUS, and RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA according to the parts set forth in the prescription and extracting the same two times with 40-70% ethanol solution under reflux for 1-4 hours each time, in which the amount of the ethanol solution may be 8-10 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 6-9 times by v/w (ml/g) in the second time; pooling the extracts and then filtrating the mixed solution; recovering ethanol from the filtrate under reduced pressure and concentrating at the same time to obtain a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C for later use;

(3) weighing GYPSUM FIBROSUM, MORI CORTEX, PEUCEDANI RADIX, CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM, LONICERAE FLOS, PLATYCODONIS RADIX, and GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA according to the parts set forth in the prescription

and decocting the same two times with water for 1-4 hours each time, in which the amount of water may be 9-11 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 7-9 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; then, pooling the decoctions and filtrating, concentrating the filtrate under reduced pressure to obtain a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, and combining the clear past with the clear paste obtained in step (2) for later use;

The fine powder obtained in step (1) and the combined clear paste obtained in step (3) constitute the active components of the pharmaceutical composition.

Dosage forms of the pharmaceutical composition according to the invention may be hard capsule, tablet, powder, oral liquid, soft capsule, pill, tincture, syrup, suppository, gel, spray, or injection.

The dosage forms of the present medication can be prepared into pharmaceutically acceptable conventional dosage forms with the preparation method common in the art, for example, such as the preparation processes recorded in *Pharmaceutics of Chinese Medicine*, Fan Biting (the Editor), 1997, Shanghai Scientific & Technical Publishers.

In formulating the various pharmaceuticals of the present invention, a person skilled in the art may add any of pharmaceutically acceptable auxiliary materials depending on the dosage forms of the different medications of the present invention and in combination with the common sense in the art, for example, the auxiliary materials include, but are not limited to a filler, a disintegrant, a lubricant, a suspending agent, a binder, a sweetener, a flavoring agent, a preservative, a matrix, or any of mixtures thereof,. The filler includes, but is not limited to starch, pregelatinized starch, lactose, mannitol, chitin, microcrystalline cellulose, sucrose, or any of mixtures thereof. The disintegrants includes, but is not limited to starch, pregelatinized starch, microcrystalline cellulose, sodium carboxymethyl starch, cross-linked polyvinylpyrrolidone, low substituted hydroxypropyl cellulose, crossl-inked sodium carboxymethyl cellulose, or any of mixtures thereof. The lubricant includes, but is not limited to magnesium stearate, sodium lauryl sulfate, talc, silica, or any of mixtures thereof. The suspending agent includes, but is not limited to polyvinylpyrrolidone, microcrystalline cellulose, sucrose, agar, hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose, or any of mixtures thereof. The binder includes, but is not limited to starch slurry, polyvinylpyrrolidone, hydroxypropyl methyl cellulose, or any of mixtures thereof. The sweetener includes, but is not limited to sodium saccharin, aspartame, sucrose, sodium cyclamate, glycyrrhetic acid, or any of mixtures thereof. The flavoring agent includes, but is not limited to sweeteners, various essences, or any of mixtures thereof. The preservative includes, but is not limited to: parabens, benzoic acid, sodium benzoate, sorbic acid and salts thereof, benzalkonium bromide, chlorhexidine acetate, eucalyptus oil, or any of mixtures thereof. The matrix includes, but is not limited to PEG6000,

PEG4000, insect wax, or any of mixtures thereof. In order to prepare the above-described dosage forms according to pharmaceutics of Traditional Chinese Medicine, other auxiliary materials which are pharmaceutically acceptable (e.g. auxiliary materials for various dosage forms recorded in Pharmaceutics of Chinese Medicine, Fan Biting (the Editor), 1997, Shanghai Scientific & Technical Publishers) may further be added when preparing those dosage forms.

As a preferred embodiment, the pharmaceutical composition of the present invention is prepared with the following method:

(1) weighing FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS according to the part set forth in the prescription and pulverizing the same into a fine powder for later use;

(2) weighing EPHEDRAE HERBA, FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS, SCUTELLARIAE RADIX, ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM, PINELLIAE RHIZOMA, ARCTII FRUCTUS, and RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA according to the parts set forth in the prescription and extracting the same two times with 40-70% ethanol solution under reflux for 1-4 hours each time, in which the amount of the ethanol solution may be 8-10 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 6-9 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; pooling the extracts and filtrating the mixed solution; recovering ethanol from the filtrate under reduced pressure and concentrating at the same time to obtain a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, for later use;

(3) weighing GYPSUM FIBROSUM, MORI CORTEX, PEUCEDANI RADIX, CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM, LONICERAE FLOS, PLATYCODONIS RADIX, and GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA according to the parts set forth in the prescription and decocting the same two times with water for 1-4 hours each time, in which the amount of the added water may be 9-11 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 7-9 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; then, pooling the decoctions and filtrating the mixed solution, concentrating the filtrate under reduced pressure to obtain a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, and combining the clear paste with the clear paste obtained in step (2) for later use;

(4) spray drying the combined clear pastes obtained in step (3) and collecting the atomized powder for later use;

(5) providing materials (parts by weight) for tableting as follows:

atomized powder obtained in step (4)	200-355;	fine powder obtained in step (1)	54-145;
carboxymethylstarch sodium	10-15.5;	microcrystalline cellulose	7-12;

magnesium stearate 1.5-3.5;

starch proper amount;

(6) tableting according to conventional formulation process.

As a further preferred embodiment, the pharmaceutical composition of the present invention is prepared with the following method:

(1) weighing FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS according to the part set forth in the prescription and pulverizing the same into a fine powder for later use;

(2) weighing EPHEDRAE HERBA, FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS, SCUTELLARIAE RADIX, ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM, PINELLIAE RHIZOMA, ARCTII FRUCTUS, and RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA according to the parts set forth in the prescription and extracting the same two times with 50% ethanol solution under reflux for 3 hours each time, in which the amount of the ethanol solution is 10 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 6 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; pooling the extracts and filtrating the mixed solution; recovering ethanol from the filtrate under reduced pressure and concentrating at the same time to obtain a clear paste with the relative density of 1.15 thermally measured at 60 °C, for later use;

(3) weighing GYPSUM FIBROSUM, MORI CORTEX, PEUCEDANI RADIX, CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM, LONICERAE FLOS, PLATYCODONIS RADIX, and GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA according to the parts set forth in the prescription and decocting the same two times with water for 2 hours each time, in which the amount of the added water is 10 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of medicinal materials for the first time and 7 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; then, pooling the decoctions and filtrating the mixed solution, concentrating the filtrate under reduced pressure to obtain a clear paste with the relative density of 1.15 thermally measured at 60 °C, and combining the clear past with the clear paste obtained in step (2) for later use;

(4) spray drying the combined clear pastes obtained in step (3) and collecting the atomized powder for later use;

(5) providing materials (parts by weight) for tableting as follows:

atomized powder obtained in step (4) 282.6;

fine powder obtained in step (1) 101;

carboxymethylstarch sodium 12.5;

microcrystalline cellulose 9.0;

magnesium stearate 2.25;

starch proper amount;

(6) tableting according to a conventional formulation process.

The pharmaceutical composition of the present invention was achieved on the basis of the collateral disease theory from Traditional Chinese Medicine in combination with the modern medical investigation on the etiology and pathogenesis of the bronchitis, as well

as the results from modern pharmacological studies on the analysis of constitutive herbs and the clinical practices. The pharmaceutical composition has effects of clearing the pulmonary heat, resolving phlegm and checking cough, and exerts good efficacies in treating bronchitis, particularly excellent efficacy in treating acute tracheobronchitis.

It has been shown experimentally that the present medication has effects of checking cough, dispelling phlegm, relieving asthma, relieving heat and resisting inflammation and shows particularly excellent efficacy in treating acute tracheobronchitis. Moreover, the present medication has been shown experimentally to be free of side effects and safe.

Detailed Description of the Invention

The present invention will be further illustrated by the following Examples and Test Examples which are not intended to limit the scope of the present invention in any way.

Example 1 Preparation method for tablets of the present medication (tentatively named as: Lian Hua Ji Zhi tablet)

Prescription:

EPHEDRAE HERBA	GYPSUM FIBROSUM	FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS	SCUTELLARIAE RADIX
52 g	324 g	194 g	78 g
MORI CORTEX	ARMENIACAE SEMEN	PEUCEDANI RADIX	PINELLIAE RHIZOMA
194 g	AMARUM	78 g	130 g
	130 g		
CITRI RETICULATAE	FRITILLARIAE	ARCTII FRUCTUS	LONICERAE FLOS
PERICARPIUM	THUNBERGII BULBUS	130 g	130 g
78 g	78 g		
RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA	PLATYCODONIS RADIX	GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX	
39 g	76 g	ET RHIZOMA	
		65 g	

Preparation method:

(1) FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS was weighed according to the weight of the prescription and pulverized into a fine powder for later use;

(2) EPHEDRAE HERBA, FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS, SCUTELLARIAE RADIX, ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM, PINELLIAE RHIZOMA, ARCTII FRUCTUS, and RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and extracted two times with 60% ethanol solution under reflux for 2 hours each time, in which the amount of the ethanol solution was 9 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 8 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; the

extracts were pooled and filtrated; the filtrate was subjected to recovery of ethanol under reduced pressure and concentrated to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, for later use;

(3) GYPSUM FIBROSUM, MORI CORTEX, PEUCEDANI RADIX, CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM, LONICERAE FLOS, PLATYCODONIS RADIX, and GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and decocted two times with water, each time for 2 hours, in which the amount of the water was 10 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 7 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; then, the decoctions were pooled, filtrated, and the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.15 thermally measured at 60 °C, which was combined with the clear paste obtained in step (2) for later use;

(4) the combined clear paste obtained in step (3) was spray dried and the atomized powder was collected for later use;

(5) the raw materials used for tablet consists of the following medicinal substances (parts by weight):

the atomized powder obtained in step (4) 285.5;

the raw medicine powder obtained in step (1) 105.4;

carboxymethylstarch sodium 12.5;

microcrystalline cellulose 8.5;

magnesium stearate 2.45;

starch proper amount;

(6) tablets were prepared according to conventional formulation process.

Example 2 Preparation method for capsules of the present medication

Prescription:

EPHEDRAE HERBA	GYPSUM FIBROSUM	FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS	SCUTELLARIAE RADIX
86 g	194 g	234 g	130 g
MORI CORTEX	ARMENIACAE SEMEN	PEUCEDANI RADIX	PINELLIAE RHIZOMA
324g	AMARUM	130 g	78 g
	78 g		
CITRI RETICULATAE	FRITILLARIAE	ARCTII FRUCTUS	LONICERAE FLOS
PERICARPIUM	THUNBERGII BULBUS	78 g	78 g
130 g	78 g		
RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA	PLATYCODONIS RADIX	GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX	
65 g	46 g	ET RHIZOMA	
		39 g	

Preparation method:

(1) FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS was weighed according to the weight of the prescription and pulverized into a fine powder for later use;

(2) EPHEDRAE HERBA, FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS, SCUTELLARIAE RADIX, ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM, PINELLIAE RHIZOMA, ARCTII FRUCTUS, and RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and extracted two times with 50% ethanol solution under reflux, each time for 2 hours, in which the amount of the ethanol solution was 8 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 6 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; the extracts were pooled and filtrated; the filtrate was subjected to recovery of ethanol under reduced pressure and concentrated to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, for later use;

(3) GYPSUM FIBROSUM, MORI CORTEX, PEUCEDANI RADIX, CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM, LONICERAE FLOS, PLATYCODONIS RADIX, and GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and decocted two times with water, each time for 2 hours, in which the amount of the water is 9 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 7 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; then, the decoctions were pooled, filtrated, the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14 thermally measured at 60 °C, which was combined with the clear paste obtained in step (2) for later use;

(4) capsules were prepared according to conventional formulation process.

Example 3 Preparation method for powder of the present medication

Prescription:

EPHEDRAE HERBA 69 g	GYPSUM FIBROSUM 259 g	FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS 259 g	SCUTELLARIAE RADIX 104 g
MORI CORTEX 259 g	ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM 104 g	PEUCEDANI RADIX 104 g	PINELLIAE RHIZOMA 104 g
CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM 104 g	FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS 104 g	ARCTII FRUCTUS 104 g	LONICERAE FLOS 104 g
RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA 52 g	PLATYCODONIS RADIX 61 g	GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA 52 g	

Preparation method:

(1) FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS was weighed according to the weight of

the prescription and pulverized into a fine powder for later use;

(2) EPHEDRAE HERBA, FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS, SCUTELLARIAE RADIX, ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM, PINELLIAE RHIZOMA, ARCTII FRUCTUS, and RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and extracted two times with 50% ethanol solution under reflux, each time for 2 hours, in which the amount of the ethanol solution was 8 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 7 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; the extracts were pooled and filtrated; the filtrate was subjected to recovery of ethanol under reduced pressure and concentrated to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14 - 1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, for later use;

(3) GYPSUM FIBROSUM, MORI CORTEX, PEUCEDANI RADIX, CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM, LONICERAE FLOS, PLATYCODONIS RADIX, and GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and decocted two times with water, each time for 2 hours, in which the amount of the added water was 9 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 8 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; then, the decoctions were pooled, filtrated, the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14 thermally measured at 60 °C, and combined with the clear paste obtained in step (2) for later use;

(4) powder was prepared according to conventional formulation process.

Example 4 Preparation method for oral liquor of the present medication

Prescription:

EPHEDRAE HERBA	GYPSUM FIBROSUM	FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS	SCUTELLARIAE RADIX
55 g	254 g	318 g	107 g
MORI CORTEX	ARMENIACAE SEMEN	PEUCEDANI RADIX	PINELLIAE RHIZOMA
203 g	AMARUM	82 g	105 g
	107 g		
CITRI RETICULATAE	FRITILLARIAE	ARCTII FRUCTUS	LONICERAE FLOS
PERICARPIUM	THUNBERGII BULBUS	122 g	113 g
84 g	125 g		
RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA	PLATYCODONIS RADIX	GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX	
42 g	60 g	ET RHIZOMA	
		50 g	

Preparation method:

(1) FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS was weighed according to the weight of the prescription and pulverized into a fine powder for later use;

(2) EPHEDRAE HERBA, FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS, SCUTELLARIAE RADIX,

ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM, PINELLIAE RHIZOMA, ARCTII FRUCTUS, and RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and extracted two times under reflux with 40% ethanol solution, each time for 1 hour, in which the amount of the ethanol solution was 8 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 6 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; the extracts were pooled and filtrated; the filtrate was subjected to recovery of ethanol under reduced pressure and concentrated to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, for later use;

(3) GYPSUM FIBROSUM, MORI CORTEX, PEUCEDANI RADIX, CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM, LONICERAE FLOS, PLATYCODONIS RADIX, and GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and decocted two times with water, each time for 1 hour, in which the amount of the added water was 9 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 7 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; then, the decoctions were pooled, filtrated, the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, and combined with the clear paste obtained in step (2) for later use;

the fine powder obtained in step (1) and the combined clear pastes obtained in step (3) were prepared to oral liquor according to conventional formulation process.

Example 5 Preparation method for soft capsules of the present medication

Prescription:

EPHEDRAE HERBA	GYPSUM FIBROSUM	FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS	SCUTELLARIAE RADIX
84 g	313 g	298 g	98 g
MORI CORTEX	ARMENIACAE SEMEN	PEUCEDANI RADIX	PINELLIAE RHIZOMA
274 g	AMARUM	116 g	123 g
	105 g		
CITRI RETICULATAE	FRITILLARIAE	ARCTII FRUCTUS	LONICERAE FLOS
PERICARPIUM	THUNBERGII BULBUS	80 g	99 g
95 g	88 g		
RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA	PLATYCODONIS RADIX	GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX	
63 g	55 g	ET RHIZOMA	
		43 g	

Preparation method:

(1) FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS was weighed according to the weight of the prescription and pulverized into a fine powder for later use;

(2) EPHEDRAE HERBA, FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS, SCUTELLARIAE RADIX, ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM, PINELLIAE RHIZOMA, ARCTII FRUCTUS, and RHEI

RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and extracted two times under reflux with 70% ethanol solution, each time for 4 hours, in which the amount of the ethanol solution was 10 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 9 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; the extracts were pooled and filtrated; the filtrate was subjected to recovery of ethanol under reduced pressure and the filtrate was concentrated to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, for later use;

(3) GYPSUM FIBROSUM, MORI CORTEX, PEUCEDANI RADIX, CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM, LONICERAE FLOS, PLATYCODONIS RADIX, and GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and decocted two times with water, each time for 4 hours, in which the amount of the added water was 11 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 9 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; then, the decoctions were pooled, filtrated, the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, and combined with the clear paste obtained in step (2) for later use;

the fine powder obtained in step (1) and the combined clear pastes obtained in step (3) were prepared to soft capsules according to conventional formulation process.

Example 6 Preparation method for pills of the present medication

Prescription:

EPHEDRAE HERBA	GYPSUM FIBROSUM	FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS	SCUTELLARIAE RADIX
53 g	202 g	213 g	84 g
MORI CORTEX	ARMENIACAE SEMEN	PEUCEDANI RADIX	PINELLIAE RHIZOMA
235 g	AMARUM	106 g	117 g
	95 g		
CITRI RETICULATAE	FRITILLARIAE	ARCTII FRUCTUS	LONICERAE FLOS
PERICARPIUM	THUNBERGII BULBUS	105 g	98 g
128 g	116 g		
RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA	PLATYCODONIS RADIX	GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX	
41 g	54 g	ET RHIZOMA	
		62 g	

Preparation method:

(1) FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS was weighed according to the weight of the prescription and pulverized into a fine powder for later use;

(2) EPHEDRAE HERBA, FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS, SCUTELLARIAE RADIX, ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM, PINELLIAE RHIZOMA, ARCTII FRUCTUS, and RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and

extracted two times under reflux with 60% ethanol solution, each time for 3 hours, in which the amount of the ethanol solution was 9 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 8 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; the extracts were pooled and filtrated; the filtrate was subjected to recovery of ethanol under reduced pressure and concentrated to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, for later use;

(3) GYPSUM FIBROSUM, MORI CORTEX, PEUCEDANI RADIX, CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM, LONICERAE FLOS, PLATYCODONIS RADIX, and GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and decocted two times with water, each time for 2.5 hours, in which the amount of the added water was 10 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 8 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; then, the decoctions were pooled, filtrated, the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, and combined with the clear paste obtained in step (2) for later use;

the fine powder obtained in step (1) and the combined clear pastes obtained in step (3) were prepared to pills according to conventional formulation process.

Example 7 Preparation method for tincture of the present medication

Prescription:

EPHEDRAE HERBA	GYPSUM FIBROSUM	FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS	SCUTELLARIAE RADIX
53 g	248 g	253 g	101 g
MORI CORTEX	ARMENIACAE SEMEN	PEUCEDANI RADIX	PINELLIAE RHIZOMA
264 g	AMARUM	103 g	104 g
	102 g		
CITRI RETICULATAE	FRITILLARIAE	ARCTII FRUCTUS	LONICERAE FLOS
PERICARPIUM	THUNBERGII BULBUS	107 g	108 g
105 g	106 g		
RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA	PLATYCODONIS RADIX	GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX	
65 g	48 g	ET RHIZOMA	
		65 g	

Preparation method:

(1) FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS was weighed according to the weight of the prescription and pulverized into a fine powder for later use;

(2) EPHEDRAE HERBA, FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS, SCUTELLARIAE RADIX, ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM, PINELLIAE RHIZOMA, ARCTII FRUCTUS, and RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and extracted two times under reflux with 50% ethanol solution, each time for 3.5 hours, in

which the amount of the ethanol solution was 10 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 9 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; the extracts were pooled and filtrated; the filtrate was subjected to recovery of ethanol under reduced pressure and concentrated to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, for later use;

(3) GYPSUM FIBROSUM, MORI CORTEX, PEUCEDANI RADIX, CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM, LONICERAE FLOS, PLATYCODONIS RADIX, and GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and decocted two times with water, each time for 3 hours, in which the amount of the added water was 10 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 7 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; then, the decoctions were pooled, filtrated, the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, and combined with the clear paste obtained in step (2) for later use;

the fine powder obtained in step (1) and the combined clear pastes obtained in step (3) were prepared to tincture according to conventional formulation process.

Example 8 Preparation method for syrup of the present medication

Prescription:

EPHEDRAE HERBA	GYPSUM FIBROSUM	FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS	SCUTELLARIAE RADIX
86 g	324 g	205 g	84 g
MORI CORTEX	ARMENIACAE SEMEN	PEUCEDANI RADIX	PINELLIAE RHIZOMA
226 g	AMARUM	84 g	85 g
	85 g		
CITRI RETICULATAE	FRITILLARIAE	ARCTII FRUCTUS	LONICERAE FLOS
PERICARPIUM	THUNBERGII BULBUS	93 g	95 g
93 g	95 g		
RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA	PLATYCODONIS RADIX	GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX	
42 g	49 g	ET RHIZOMA	
		39 g	

Preparation method:

(1) FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS was weighed according to the weight of the prescription and pulverized into a fine powder for later use;

(2) EPHEDRAE HERBA, FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS, SCUTELLARIAE RADIX, ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM, PINELLIAE RHIZOMA, ARCTII FRUCTUS, and RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and extracted two times under reflux with 70% ethanol solution, each time for 1 hour, in which the amount of the ethanol solution was 8 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the

medicinal materials for the first time and 6 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; the extracts were pooled and filtrated; the filtrate was subjected to recovery of ethanol under reduced pressure and concentrated to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, for later use;

- 5 (3) GYPSUM FIBROSUM, MORI CORTEX, PEUCEDANI RADIX, CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM, LONICERAE FLOS, PLATYCODONIS RADIX, and GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and decocted two times with water, each time for 1 hour, in which the amount of the added water was 11 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 9 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; then, the decoctions were
10 pooled, filtrated, the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, and combined with the clear paste obtained in step (2) for later use;

- the fine powder obtained in step (1) and the combined clear pastes obtained in step
15 (3) were prepared to syrup by conventional formulation process.

Example 9 Preparation method for suppository of the present medication

Prescription:

EPHEDRAE HERBA	GYPSUM FIBROSUM	FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS	SCUTELLARIAE RADIX
52 g	310 g	312 g	121 g
MORI CORTEX	ARMENIACAE SEMEN	PEUCEDANI RADIX	PINELLIAE RHIZOMA
318 g	AMARUM	124 g	126 g
	122 g		
CITRI RETICULATAE	FRITILLARIAE	ARCTII FRUCTUS	LONICERAE FLOS
PERICARPIUM	THUNBERGII BULBUS	116 g	119 g
128 g	118 g		
RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA	PLATYCODONIS RADIX	GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX	
62 g	71 g	ET RHIZOMA	
		39 g	

Preparation method:

- 20 (1) FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS was weighed according to the weight of the prescription and pulverized into a fine powder for later use;

- (2) EPHEDRAE HERBA, FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS, SCUTELLARIAE RADIX, ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM, PINELLIAE RHIZOMA, ARCTII FRUCTUS, and RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and
25 extracted two times under reflux with 40% ethanol solution, each time for 4 hours, in which the amount of the ethanol solution was 10 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 9 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; the

extracts were pooled and filtrated; the filtrate was subjected to recovery of ethanol under reduced pressure and concentrated to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, for later use;

(3) GYPSUM FIBROSUM, MORI CORTEX, PEUCEDANI RADIX, CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM, LONICERAE FLOS, PLATYCODONIS RADIX, and GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and decocted two times with water, each time for 1 hour, in which the amount of the added water was 11 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 9 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; then, the decoctions were pooled, filtrated, the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, and combined with the clear paste obtained in step (2) for later use;

the fine powder obtained in step (1) and the combined clear pastes obtained in step (3) were prepared to suppository by conventional formulation process.

Example 10 Preparation method for gel of the present medication

Prescription:

EPHEDRAE HERBA	GYPSUM FIBROSUM	FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS	SCUTELLARIAE RADIX
82 g	205 g	305 g	82 g
MORI CORTEX	ARMENIACAE SEMEN	PEUCEDANI RADIX	PINELLIAE RHIZOMA
305 g	AMARUM	126 g	88 g
	82 g		
CITRI RETICULATAE	FRITILLARIAE	ARCTII FRUCTUS	LONICERAE FLOS
PERICARPIUM	THUNBERGII BULBUS	124 g	85 g
124 g	85 g		
RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA	PLATYCODONIS RADIX	GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX	
64 g	48 g	ET RHIZOMA	
		64 g	

Preparation method:

(1) FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS was weighed according to the weight of the prescription and pulverized into a fine powder for later use;

(2) EPHEDRAE HERBA, FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS, SCUTELLARIAE RADIX, ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM, PINELLIAE RHIZOMA, ARCTII FRUCTUS, and RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and extracted two times under reflux with 55% ethanol solution, each time for 2.5 hours, in which the amount of the ethanol solution was 7 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 9 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; the extracts were pooled and filtrated; the filtrate was subjected to recovery of ethanol under

reduced pressure and concentrated to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, for later use;

(3) GYPSUM FIBROSUM, MORI CORTEX, PEUCEDANI RADIX, CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM, LONICERAE FLOS, PLATYCODONIS RADIX, and
 5 GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and decocted two times with water, each time for 3 hours, in which the amount of the added water was 9 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 7 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; then, the decoctions were pooled, filtrated, the filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to
 10 a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60°C, and combined with the clear paste obtained in step (2) for later use;

the fine powder obtained in step (1) and the combined clear pastes obtained in step (3) were prepared to gel by conventional formulation process.

15 Example 11 Preparation method for spray of the present medication

Prescription:

EPHEDRAE HERBA	GYPSUM FIBROSUM	FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS	SCUTELLARIAE RADIX
65 g	234 g	245 g	84 g
MORI CORTEX	ARMENIACAE SEMEN	PEUCEDANI RADIX	PINELLIAE RHIZOMA
321 g	AMARUM	85 g	125 g
	118 g		
CITRI RETICULATAE	FRITILLARIAE	ARCTII FRUCTUS	LONICERAE FLOS
PERICARPIUM	THUNBERGII BULBUS	85 g	97 g
90 g	94 g		
RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA	PLATYCODONIS RADIX	GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX	
55 g	55 g	ET RHIZOMA	
		55 g	

Preparation method:

(1) FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS was weighed according to the weight of the prescription and pulverized into a fine powder for later use;

20 (2) EPHEDRAE HERBA, FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS, SCUTELLARIAE RADIX, ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM, PINELLIAE RHIZOMA, ARCTII FRUCTUS, and RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and extracted two times under reflux with 60% ethanol solution, each time for 2.5 hours, in which the amount of the ethanol solution was 9 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the
 25 medicinal materials for the first time and 6 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; the extracts were pooled and filtrated; the filtrate was subjected to recovery of ethanol under reduced pressure and concentrated to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16

thermally measured at 60 °C, for later use;

(3) GYPSUM FIBROSUM, MORI CORTEX, PEUCEDANI RADIX, CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM, LONICERAE FLOS, PLATYCODONIS RADIX, and GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and decocted two times with water, each time for 3 hours, in which the amount of the added water was 9 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 7 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; then, the decoctions were pooled, filtrated, concentrated under reduced pressure to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, and combined with the clear paste obtained in step (2) for later use;

the fine powder obtained in step (1) and the combined clear pastes obtained in step (3) were prepared to spray by conventional formulation process.

Example 12 Preparation method for injection of the present medication

Prescription:

EPHEDRAE HERBA	GYPSUM FIBROSUM	FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS	SCUTELLARIAE RADIX
73 g	205 g	285 g	114 g
MORI CORTEX	ARMENIACAE SEMEN	PEUCEDANI RADIX	PINELLIAE RHIZOMA
275 g	AMARUM	123 g	88 g
	82 g		
CITRI RETICULATAE	FRITILLARIAE	ARCTII FRUCTUS	LONICERAE FLOS
PERICARPIUM	THUNBERGII BULBUS	119 g	101 g
126 g	97 g		
RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA	PLATYCODONIS RADIX	GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX	
42 g	51 g	ET RHIZOMA	
		45 g	

Preparation method:

(1) FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS was weighed according to the weight of the prescription and pulverized into a fine powder for later use;

(2) EPHEDRAE HERBA, FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS, SCUTELLARIAE RADIX, ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM, PINELLIAE RHIZOMA, ARCTII FRUCTUS, and RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and extracted two times under reflux with 60% ethanol solution, each time for 3 hours, in which the amount of the ethanol solution was 9 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 6 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; the extracts were pooled and filtrated; the filtrate was subjected to recovery of ethanol under reduced pressure and concentrated to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, for later use;

(3) GYPSUM FIBROSUM, MORI CORTEX, PEUCEDANI RADIX, CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM, LONICERAE FLOS, PLATYCODONIS RADIX, and GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA were weighed according to the weight of the prescription and decocted two times with water, each time for 1 hour, in which the amount of the added water was 9 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 7 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; then, the decoctions were pooled, filtrated, concentrated under reduced pressure to a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, and combined with the clear paste obtained in step (2) for later use;

the fine powder obtained in step (1) and the combined clear pastes obtained in step (3) were prepared to injection by conventional formulation process.

All of the pharmaceutical compositions of the present invention administrated in the following Test Examples of pharmacological and toxicologic experiments (hereinafter referred to as “the present medication”) were prepared with the procedure set forth in Example 1.

Test Example 1 Experiments on cough-checking effect of the present medication

1. The cough-checking effect of the present medication on guinea pigs with citric acid-induced cough

1.1. Experimental materials

1.1.1. Medications:

(1) The present medication, 10.4 g crude drugs/g (that is 1 g of the medication is made from 10.4 g crude drugs), provided by Shijiazhuang Yiling Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. lot number: 060401, which was prepared into the required concentrations with distilled water for the experiment.

(2) Cloperastine Hydrochloride Tablet (TABELLAE CLOPERASTINI HYDROCHLORIDI), 10mg/tablet, produced by Beijing Shuguang Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. lot number: 060619.

(3) Jizhi Syrup Oral Liquor, 200ml/bottle, produced by Fuling Pharmaceutical Factory, Taiji Group, with approval number: SFDA Approval No. Z50020615, production date: November 13, 2006, and lot number of the product: 0611034010.

1.1.2. Animals:

Sixty purebred guinea pigs of Grade I evenly composed of males and females with the mean body weight of 238.57 ± 12.14 g, provided by Beijing Keyu Animal Breeding

Center, License number: SCXK (Jing) 2002-0005.

1.1.3. Reagent:

Citric acid, produced by Beijing Chemical Plant, lot number: 960904.

1.1.4 Apparatuses:

Air pump; 4 L bell-shape glass container; and glass sparger.

1.2. Experimental process

Prior to the experiment, the guinea pigs were individually placed into the sealed 4 L bell-shape container and sprayed for 1 minute with 17.5% of citric acid at a pressure of 400 mmHg through the glass sparger. The guinea pigs were screened with respect to cough number recorded within 5 minutes. The guinea pigs with a cough number of less than 10 were abandoned and the qualified ones were kept for the experiment.

Sixty of the screened qualified guinea pigs evenly composed of males and females were randomly assigned into the following six groups: (1) the blank group, administered with physiological saline (5 ml/kg); (2) the Cloperastine Hydrochloride Tablet group (CHT group, 7 mg/kg); (3) the Jizhi Syrup Oral Liquor group (JSOL group, 9 ml/kg); (4) the high dosage group of the present medication (H-dosage group, 6 g crude drug/kg); (5) the medium dosage group of the present medication (M-dosage group, 3 g crude drug/kg); (6) the low dosage group of the present medication (L-dosage group, 1.5 g crude drug/kg). Each animal was intragastrically administered q.d. for consecutive three days. The guinea pigs were individually placed into the sealed 4 L bell-shape container 30 min post the final administration and sprayed for 1 minute with 17.5% of citric acid at a pressure of 600 mmHg through the glass sparger. The guinea pigs were observed to record the cough incubation period and the cough number within 5 minutes. Comparisons among the groups were performed by *t*-test.

1.3. Test results

The experimental results show that the high, medium, and low dosages of the present medication can significantly prolong the cough incubation period and reducing the cough number and show significant difference as compared to the blank group ($P < 0.05$, $P < 0.01$).

Table 1: The cough-checking effect of the present medication on guinea pig with citric acid-induced cough

Group	Number of animals	Dosage	Incubation period (sec)	Cough number (times /5 min)
	(n)	(/kg)	($\bar{X} \pm SD$)	($\bar{X} \pm SD$)
Blank group	10	5 ml	79.10±39.98	14.30±5.21

CHT group	10	7 mg	173.30±68.01 ^{**}	6.20±2.04 ^{***}
JSOL group	10	9 ml	128.50±28.76 ^{**}	7.70±1.34 ^{**}
H-dosage group	10	6 g	166.70±85.32 ^{**}	6.70±3.92 ^{**}
M-dosage group	10	3 g	118.50±37.27 [*]	7.70±4.79 ^{**}
L-dosage group	10	1.5 g	106.50±40.61	9.90±2.02 [*]

Note: ^{*}P<0.05, ^{**}P<0.01, ^{***}P<0.001, as compared to the blank group.

1.4. Summary

The results above show that the present medication has effects of significantly prolonging the incubation period and reducing the cough number (P<0.05, P<0.01) of the cough induced by citric acid in guinea pigs.

2. The cough-checking effect of the present medication on mice with an aqueous ammonia-induced cough.

2.1. Experimental materials

2.1.1. Medications:

(1) The present medication, 10.4 g crude drugs/g, provided by Shijiazhuang Yiling Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. lot number: 060401, and prepared into the required concentrations with distilled water for the experiment.

(2) Cloperastine Hydrochloride Tablet, 10mg/tablet, produced by Beijing Shuguang Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. lot number: 060619.

(3) Jizhi Syrup Oral Liquor, 200ml/bottle, produced by Fuling Pharmaceutical Factory, Taiji Group, with approval number: SFDA Approval No. Z50020615, production date: November 13, 2006, and lot number of the product: 0611034010.

2.1.2. Animals:

Sixty of the Kunming mice of Grade II evenly composed of males and females with the mean body weight of 19.92 ± 0.79g provided by Institute of laboratory Animal Science, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, License number: SCXK (Jing) 2000-0006.

2.1.3. Reagent: (1) aqueous ammonia, produced by Beijing Century Red Star Chemical Co., Ltd. lot number: 20060310.

2.2. Experiment process

Sixty of the healthy mice were randomly assigned into the following six groups: (1) the blank group administered with physiological saline (25 ml/kg); (2) the Cloperastine Hydrochloride Tablet group (CHT group, 12 mg/kg); (3) the Jizhi Syrup Oral Liquor group (JSOL group, 16 ml/kg); (4) the high dosage group of the present medication (H-dosage group, 12 g crude drug/kg); (5) the medium dosage group of the present medication

(M-dosage group, 6 g crude drug/kg); (6) the low dosage group of the present medication (L-dosage group, 3 g crude drug/kg). Each mouse was subjected to intragastrical administration q.d. for consecutive three days. 30 min post the final administration, each mouse was put into a 500 ml beaker with a tampon inside. The, 0.2 ml of aqueous ammonia was sucked into a 1 ml syringe and injected into the tampon. Then, the beaker was inverted quickly. The mouse was observed to record the cough incubation period and the cough number within 3 minutes. Comparisons among the groups were performed by *t*-test.

2.3. Test results

It can be seen in Table 2 that for the cough induced by aqueous ammonia in mice, the high, medium, and low dosages of the present medication can significantly prolong the incubation period of the cough and reducing the cough number and show significant difference as compared to the blank group ($P<0.05$ - $P<0.01$).

Table 2: The cough-checking effect of the present medication on mice with an aqueous ammonia-induced cough.

Group	Number of animals	Dosage	Incubation period (sec)	Cough number (times /5 min)
	(n)	(/kg)	($\bar{X} \pm SD$)	($\bar{X} \pm SD$)
Blank group	0	25ml	51.70±15.03	56.90±9.52
CHT group	10	12mg	104.4±26.86 ^{***}	31.30±9.82 ^{***}
JSOL group	10	16ml	92.20±29.05 ^{**}	39.80±7.60 ^{***}
H-dosage group	10	12g	94.50±24.67 ^{***}	39.10±10.93 ^{**}
M-dosage group	10	6g	72.00±8.07 ^{**}	40.40±11.31 ^{**}
L-dosage group	10	3g	60.10±11.70	46.10±10.07 [*]

Note: ^{*} $P<0.05$, ^{**} $P<0.01$, ^{***} $P<0.001$, as compared to the blank group.

2.4. Summary:

The results above show that the present medication has effects of significantly prolonging the incubation period of the cough and reducing the cough number ($P<0.05$, $P<0.01$, $P<0.001$) of the cough induced by aqueous ammonia in mice.

3. Conclusion:

The two experimental investigations described above suggest that the present medication has an effect for checking cough.

Test Example 2 Experiment on the phlegm-dispelling effect of the

present medication

1. The effect of the present medication on the amount of excreted sputum collected by capillary in rats.

1.1. Experimental materials

1.1.1. Medications:

(1) The present medication, 10.4 g crude drugs/g, provided by Shijiazhuang Yiling Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. lot number: 060401, and prepared into the required concentrations with distilled water for the experiment.

(2) Mucosolvan, 30mg/tablet, the product of Boehringer Ingelheim Int. Ltd. German, distributed by Shanghai Sine Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd., lot number: 205325, distribution lot number:030307.

(3) Jizhi Syrup Oral Liquor, 200ml/bottle, produced by Fuling Pharmaceutical Factory, Taiji Group, with approval number: SFDA Approval No. Z50020615, production date: November 13, 2006, and lot number of the product: 0611034010.

1.1.2. Animals:

Sixty of SPF SD rats evenly composed of males and females with the mean body weight of 162.70 ± 8.25 g, provided by Vital River Laboratory Animal Technology Co., Ltd., Beijing, License number: SCXK (Jing) 2002-0003.

1.2 Experiment process

Sixty of the healthy rats were randomly assigned into the following six groups: (1) the blank group administered with physiological saline (10 ml/kg); (2) the Mucosolvan group (11 mg /kg); (3) the Jizhi Syrup Oral Liquor group (JSOL group, 11 ml/kg); (4) the high dosage group of the present medication (H-dosage group, 8 g crude drug/kg); (5) the medium dosage group of the present medication (M-dosage group, 4 g crude drug/kg); (6) the low dosage group of the present medication (L-dosage group, 2 g crude drug/kg). Each rat was anesthetized intraperitoneally with 3.5% of chloral hydrate (10ml/kg), laid down on its back horizontally and fixed. The skin of neck was incised and the trachea was separated. An orifice was pricked with a syringe needle at the *median site* of the lower edge of the thyroid between the two cartilages. A glass capillary was inserted through the orifice such that the glass capillary was just contact the inner wall of the trachea. When the glass capillary was filled up with sputum, it would be replaced immediately with another one. The sputum volume in capillaries was determined 1 hour prior to administration. One hour later, the animal was administered duodenally with medication (the animals in the blank control group were administered with equivalent amount of physiological saline). The average amount of secreted sputum per hour in 1 or

2 hours after administration was observed. Comparisons among the groups were performed by *t*-test with the average amount of secreted sputum 1 hour prior to administration serving as the normal value.

1.3. Test results

5 It can be seen in Table 3 that the high, medium, and low dosages of the present medication can significantly increase the secretion of the respiratory track and enhance excretion of sputum and show significant difference as compared to the blank group ($P<0.05$, $P<0.01$, $P<0.001$).

Table 3: The effect of the present medication on the amount of excreted sputum
10 measured by capillary in rats ($\bar{X} \pm SD$, $n=10$).

Group	Dosage	Secretion (cm)		
	(/kg)	1 h prior to administration	1 h post administration	2 h post administration
Blank group	10ml	2.73±0.48	3.00±0.55 ^{###}	2.87±0.56 ^{###}
		Difference	0.27±0.18	0.14±0.13
		Change rate	1.10±0.07	1.05±0.05
Mucosolvan group	11mg	2.79±0.74	7.03±0.90 ^{###}	8.07±1.22 ^{###}
		Difference	4.24±0.54 ^{***}	5.28±0.93 ^{***}
		Change rate	2.62±0.46 ^{△△△}	3.01±0.64 ^{△△△}
JSOL group	11ml	2.72±0.43	3.26±0.40 ^{###}	3.07±0.36 ^{###}
		Difference	0.54±0.26 [*]	0.35±0.23 [*]
		Change rate	1.21±0.12 [△]	1.13±0.11 [△]
H-dosage group	8g	2.78±0.42	4.07±0.42 ^{###}	3.76±0.59 ^{###}
		Difference	1.29±0.58 ^{***}	0.98±0.63 ^{***}
		Change rate	1.50±0.31 ^{△△△}	1.38±0.28 ^{△△}
M-dosage group	4g	2.77±0.33	3.86±0.50 ^{###}	3.44±0.51 ^{##}
		Difference	1.09±0.64 ^{***}	0.67±0.60 [*]
		Change rate	1.41±0.27 ^{△△}	1.26±0.24 [△]
L-dosage group	2g	2.78±0.32	3.28±0.29 ^{###}	3.09±0.25 ^{###}
		Difference	0.50±0.21 [*]	0.31±0.23
		Change rate	1.19±0.09 [△]	1.12±0.09

Note: * $P<0.05$, *** $P<0.001$, as compared to the blank group;

*△ $P<0.0015$; △△ $P<0.01$; △△△ $P<0.001$, as compared to the blank group;

$P<0.01$, ### $P<0.001$, as self-compared.

1.4. Summary

15 The above-described results suggest that the present medication has an effect of increasing the excreted sputum volume ($P<0.05$, $P<0.01$, $P<0.001$).

2. Effect of the present medication on dispelling phlegm measured by phenol red in mice.

2.1. Experimental materials

2.1.1. Medications:

(1) The present medication, 10.4 g crude drugs/g, provided by Shijiazhuang Yiling Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd., lot number: 060401, and prepared into the required concentrations with distilled water for the experiment.

(2) Mucosolvan, 30mg/tablet, the product of Boehringer Ingelheim Int. Ltd. German, distributed by Shanghai Sine Pharmaceutical Co.Ltd., lot number: 205325, distribution lot number:030307.

(3) Jizhi Syrup Oral Liquor, 200ml/bottle, produced by Fuling Pharmaceutical Factory, Taiji Group, with approval number: SFDA Approval No. Z50020615, production date: November 13, 2006, and lot number of the product: 0611034010.

2.1.2. Reagent:

Phenol red (an indicator) from Beijing Chemical Plant, lot number: 770517.

2.1.3. Animals:

Sixty of the ICR mice of Grade II evenly composed of males and females with the mean body weight of 19.30 ± 1.15 g, provided by Vital River Laboratory Animal Technology Co., Ltd., Beijing, License number: SCXK (Jing) 2002-0003.

2.2. Experiment process

Sixty of the healthy mice were randomly assigned into the following six groups: (1) the blank group administered with physiological saline (25 ml/kg); (2) the Mucosolvan group (16 mg/kg); (3) the Jizhi Syrup Oral Liquor group (JSOL group, 16 ml/kg); (4) the high dosage group of the present medication (H-dosage group, 12 g crude drug/kg); (5) the medium dosage group of the present medication (M-dosage group, 6 g crude drug/kg); (6) the low dosage group of the present medication (L-dosage group, 3 g crude drug/kg). Each mouse was intragastrically administered q.d. for consecutive three days, while being fasted but having *Ad libitum* access to water prior to the experiment. After the final administration, the mouse was injected with a solution of 5% phenol red physiological saline at 500mg/kg. Thirty minutes later, the mouse was sacrificed and fixed in dorsal position. The skin of neck was incised medianly and the trachea was separated. A tiny opening was cut on the separated trachea and an obtuse syringe needle of 7 Gauge was inserted about 0.3 cm into the trachea through the opening and then ligated firmly with a silk suture. The airway was washed repeatedly with 0.5 ml of physiological saline sucked into a 1 ml syringe and the flush liquid was aspirated into a test tube.

Those above said steps were repeated 3 times. 0.1ml of 1mol/L NaOH was added to the flush liquid in the tube, allowing the liquid to be basic. The optical density (OD) value in the flush liquid was determined by UV-visible spectrophotometer UV-120-02 at a wavelength of 546nm, in which the level of phenol red in the flush liquid ($\mu\text{g/ml}$) was calculated on basis of a phenol red standard curve. Comparisons among the groups were performed by *t*-test.

2.3. Test results

The results in Table 3 show that both the high and medium dosages of the present medication have an effect of significantly increasing the amount of phenol red excreted by mucus membrane of respiratory tract in mice and show significant difference as compared to the blank group. The results suggest that the present medication has an apparent effect of dispelling phlegm ($P<0.05$, $P<0.001$).

Table 4: Effect of the present medication on phenol red expectoration in the mouse

($\bar{X} \pm \text{SD}$ n=10)

Group	Dosage (/kg)	Amount of phenol red excreted ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)
Blank group	25ml	0.507 ± 0.105
Mucosolvan group	16mg	$1.538 \pm 0.486^{***}$
JSOL group	16ml	$0.683 \pm 0.159^{**}$
H-dosage group	12g	$0.943 \pm 0.320^{***}$
M-dosage group	6g	$0.889 \pm 0.461^*$
L-dosage group	3g	0.618 ± 0.145

Note: * $P<0.05$, ** $P<0.001$, as compared to the control group.

2.4. Summary

The above-described result suggests that the high and medium dosages of the present medication have an effect of increasing the amount of phenol red excreted through the respiratory tract of the mouse, thus exerting a significant phlegm-dispelling effect on the mouse ($P<0.05$, $P<0.001$).

3 Conclusion:

The two experimental investigations described above suggest that the present medication has an effect of dispelling phlegm.

Test example 3 Experiment on wheezing asthma-relieving effect of the present medication

1. Wheezing asthma-relieving effect of the present medication on histamine-induced asthma in guinea pigs

1.1. Experimental materials

1.1.1. Medications:

(1) The present medication, 10.4 g crude drugs/g, provided by Shijiazhuang Yiling Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd., lot number: 060401, and prepared into the required concentrations with distilled water for the experiment.

(2) Aminophylline, 0.1g/tablet, from Beijing Zizhu Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd, lot number: 20061202.

(3) Jizhi Syrup Oral Liquor, 200ml/bottle, produced by Fuling Pharmaceutical Factory, Taiji Group, with approval number: SFDA Approval No. Z50020615, production date: November 13, 2006, and lot number of the product: 0611034010.

1.1.2. Animals:

Sixty of white purebred guinea pigs of Grade I evenly composed of males and females with the mean body weight of 181.97 ± 15.85 g, provided by Beijing Keyu Animal Breeding Center, License number: SCXK (Jing) 2002-0005.

1.1.3. Reagent:

(1) Acetylcholine chloride, 1g/bottle, from Beijing Chemical Reagents Company, lot number: 060211.

(2) Histamine phosphate, 5g/bottle, from Shanghai Institutes of Biology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, production No. 1702.

1.1.4. Instrument:

An asthma-inducing apparatus (air compressor, glass nebulizer), 4L bell-shape glass container.

1.2. Experiment process

Healthy guinea pigs evenly composed of males and females were subjected to screening previously. The guinea pigs were individually placed into the 4 L bell shape container and sprayed with a mixed liquid of 2 % acetylcholine chloride and 0.1 % histamine phosphate in equal volumes for 20 s at a pressure of 400 mmHg. After the spraying, the guinea pigs were observed for the incubation period for asthmatic convulsion (the time that the asthmatic convulsion takes to occur after ceasing the spraying) within 6 minutes. Guinea pigs showing the incubation period for asthmatic convulsion of above 120 s would not be chosen.

Sixty of the screened guinea pigs were randomly assigned into the following six groups: (1) the control model group administered with physiological saline (5 ml/kg); (2)

the Aminophylline group (0.05 g/kg); (3) the Jizhi Syrup Oral Liquor group (JSOL group, 9 ml/kg); (4) the high dosage group of the present medication (H-dosage group, 6 g crude drug/kg); (5) the medium dosage group of the present medication (M-dosage group, 3 g crude drug/kg); (6) the low dosage group of the present medication (L-dosage group, 1.5 g crude drug/kg). The animals were intragastrically administered q.d. for consecutive three days and subjected to the asthma-inducing experiment in 30 min post the final administration. The guinea pigs were individually placed into the 4 L bell-shape glass container and sprayed with a mixed liquid of 2 % acetylcholine chloride and 0.1 % histamine phosphate in equal volumes for 20 s at a pressure of 400 mmHg. Then, the guinea pigs were observed within 6 minutes for the incubation period of asthmatic convulsion (also known as the asthma-inducing incubation period), that is, the time it takes for asthmatic convulsion to occur and for the guinea pig to fall down after ceasing the spaying. The incubation period lasting for more than 6 min was counted as 360 s. The experimental results were compared among the groups by *t*-test.

1.3. Test results

Table 5: Wheezing asthma-relieving effect of the present medication on guinea pigs

(n=10, $\bar{X} \pm SD$).

Group	Dosage	Incubation period	Falling-down time
	(g /kg)	(second)	(second)
Control model group	5ml	67.20±44.32	129.40±49.46
Aminophylline group	0.05g	228.0±43.35 ^{***}	358.50±3.37 ^{***}
JSOL group	9ml	123.30±37.04 ^{**}	215.10±110.21 [*]
H-dosage group	6g	124.40±30.12 ^{**}	231.20±94.82 ^{**}
M-dosage group	3g	110.70±41.39 [*]	211.40±105.13 [*]
L-dosage group	1.5g	93.20±50.65	160.20±49.40

Note: ^{*} P<0.05; ^{**} P<0.01; ^{***} P<0.001, as compared to the control model group.

It can be seen from the results in Table 5 that the high and medium dosages of the present medication have an effect of significantly prolonging the asthma incubation period and deferring the fall-down as compared to the control group (P<0.05, P<0.01), while the low dosage can somewhat prolong the incubation period and defer the fall-down as compared to the control group, but displays no significant difference.

1.4. Summary

The experimental results show that the high and medium dosages of the present medication has an effect of significantly prolonging the asthma incubation period and deferring the fall-down, thus significantly ameliorating the histamine-induced asthma in

guinea pigs ($P < 0.05$, $P < 0.01$).

2. Effect of the present medication on allergic bronchial spasm in guinea pigs

2.1. Experimental materials

2.1.1. Medications:

(1) The present medication, 10.4 g crude drugs/g, provided by Shijiazhuang Yiling Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd., lot number: 060401, and prepared into the required concentrations with distilled water for the experiment.

(2) Aminophylline, 0.1g/tablet, the product from Beijing Zizhu Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd, lot number: 20061202.

(3) Jizhi Syrup Oral Liquor, 200ml/bottle, produced by Fuling Pharmaceutical Factory, Taiji Group, with approval number: SFDA Approval No. Z50020615, production date: November 13, 2006, and lot number of the product: 0611034010.

2.1.2. Animals:

Sixty of white purebred guinea pigs of Grade I evenly composed of males and females with the mean body weight of 188.15 ± 16.07 g, provided by Beijing Keyu Animal Breeding Center, License number: SCXK (Jing) 2002-0005.

2.1.3. Antigen:

Ovalbumin, 50g/bottle, from Sigma, Cat: A5253, distributed by Beijing Hui Ze Ao Technology and Trade Co., Ltd.

2.1.4. Reagent:

Pertussis vaccine, thirty billion units/ml, 2ml/ampule, from National Institute For Control of Pharmaceutical and Biological Products, lot number: 04-1.

2.1.5. Instrument:

An asthma-inducing apparatus, (air compressor, glass nebulizer), a 4L bell-shape glass container.

2.2. Experiment process

Sensitization of the guinea pigs: sixty of the white healthy guinea pigs were selected and each of them was injected intramuscularly at the rear leg with 4 mg of ovalbumin (0.1ml of physiological saline of 4% ovalbumin) and at same time injected intraperitoneally with 2×10^{10} bacteria of the pertussis vaccine. After sensitization for 14 days, the injected animals were used in the experiment.

The animals at Day 10 after the sensitization were randomly assigned into the following six groups with 10 animals per group: (1) the control group administered with physiological saline (5 ml/kg); (2) the Aminophylline group (0.05 g/kg); (3) the Jizhi Syrup

Oral Liquor group (JSOL group, 9 ml/kg); (4) the high dosage group of the present medication (H-dosage group, 6 g crude drug/kg); (5) the medium dosage group of the present medication (M-dosage group, 3 g crude drug/kg); (6) the low dosage group of the present medication (L-dosage group, 1.5 g crude drug/kg), and intragastrically administered q.d. for consecutive five days. The guinea pigs were individually put into the sealed 4L bell shape container in 30 min post the final administration and sprayed with a solution of 5 % ovalbumin for half of a minute at the constant pressure of 400 mmHg. The guinea pigs were observed to record the incubation period of asthmatic convulsion and the number of animals appearing asthma, convulsionary fall-down as well as death within 6 minutes. As for the animal not showing asthma, convulsionary fall-down within 6 minutes, the incubation period was counted as 360 s. The experimental results were compared among the groups by *t*-test. The numbers of the dead animals were statistically test by Chi-square χ^2 test.

2.3. Test results

Table 6: Asthma-relieving effect of the present medication on guinea pigs (n=10, $\bar{X} \pm SD$).

Group	Dosage	Incubation period	Asthma	Convulsionary fall-down	Number of the dead animals
	(g/kg)	(sec)	(sec)	(sec)	(sec)
Control group	5ml	39.70±10.79	64.40±21.61	87.90±29.86	9
Aminophylline group	0.05g	330.00±53.28 ^{***}	387.00±83.73 ^{***}	352.50±23.72 ^{***}	0 ^{***}
JSOL group	9ml	59.50±25.87 [*]	182.00±129.77 [*]	206.50±136.28 [*]	4 [*]
H-dosage group	6g	70.70±31.45 ^{**}	164.70±107.05 ^{**}	209.40±132.50 [*]	2 ^{**}
M-dosage group	3g	63.10±31.11 [*]	188.70±147.94 [*]	196.00±141.87 [*]	5 [*]
L-dosage group	1.5g	42.50±13.79	125.70±123.99	133.70±120.77	7

Note: ^{*}P<0.05; ^{**}P<0.01; ^{***}P<0.001, as compared to the control group.

It can be seen from the results in Table 6 that the high and medium dosages of the present medication can significantly prolong the incubation period of allergic bronchial spasm, defer the occurrence of asthma and convulsionary fall-down, and reduce the number of the dead animals, and show significant differences as compared to the control group (P<0.05, P<0.01), while the low dosage can somewhat prolong the incubation period of allergic bronchial spasm and defer the occurrence of asthma and convulsionary fall-down as compared to the control group, but shows no significant difference.

2.4. Summary

The experimental results show that the high and medium dosages of the present medication have effects of prolonging the asthma incubation period, deferring the occurrence of asthma and convulsionary fall-down, and reducing the number of the dead animals, thus significantly ameliorating the ovalbumin-induced allergic bronchial spasm (P<0.05, P<0.01).

3. Conclusion:

The two experimental investigations described above suggest that the present medication has an effect of relieving asthma.

Test Example 4 Experiment on pyretolysis effect of the present medication

1. Effect of the present medication on Escherichia coli endotoxin-induced pyrexia in rabbits.

1.1. Experimental materials

1.1.1. Medications:

(1) The present medication, 10.4 g crude drugs/g, provided by Shijiazhuang Yiling Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd., lot number: 060401, and prepared into the required concentrations with distilled water for the experiment.

(2) Aspirin enteric-coated tablet, 0.3 g/tablet, produced by Yantai Justaware Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (Yantai Second Pharmaceutical Factory), lot number: 061102.

(3) Jizhi Syrup Oral Liquor, 200ml/bottle, produced by Fuling Pharmaceutical Factory, Taiji Group, with approval number: SFDA Approval No. Z50020615, production date: November 13, 2006, and lot number of the product: 0611034010.

1.1.2. Pyrogen:

E. coli. endotoxin, 500 µg/ampule, from Institute of Biological products, Ministry of Health of the People's Republic of China, lot number: 891-2.

1.1.3. Animals:

Forty-eight of the Japanese White rabbits evenly composed of males and females with the mean body weight of 2.10 ± 0.08 kg, provided by Tongli Laboratory Animal Farm, Xueyuan Road, Haidian District, Beijing; Qualified certificate NO: License number SCK (Jing) 2002-0008.

1.2. Experiment process

The Japanese White rabbits were assigned into the following six groups with eight

animals per group, evenly composing of males and females: (1) the control model group administered with physiological saline (3 ml/kg); (2) the Aspirin group (100 mg/kg); (3) the Jizhi Syrup Oral Liquor group (JSOL group, 6 ml/kg); (4) the high dosage group of the present medication (H-dosage group, 4 g crude drug/kg); (5) the medium dosage group of the present medication (M-dosage group, 2 g crude drug/kg); (6) the low dosage group of the present medication (L-dosage group, 1 g crude drug/kg). Each rabbit was induced fever by *E. coli*. endotoxin and was measured the rectal temperature twice at the day immediately before the experiment. The average temperature was used as the body temperature prior to administration. The next day, the rabbit was subjected to the intragastrical administration q.d. for consecutive three days (the animals in the control model group were intragastrically administered with the equal volume of physiological saline, and the animals in the Aspirin group were intragastrically administered once before injected with the endotoxin). The animals in the administered groups were injected with *E. coli*. endotoxin at 250 ng/ml/kg through the marginal ear vein 30 minute post the final administration, the body temperatures were determined at 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 hours post the injection, and changes in the body temperatures at each of the time points (Δ °C) were calculated. Comparisons among the groups were performed by *t*-test.

1.3. Test results (see Table 7)

Table 7: Effect of the present medication on rabbit's body temperature (n=8, $\bar{X} \pm SD$)

Group	Dosage (/kg)	Prior to administration (T, °C)	Changes of body temperature post final administration (Δ °C)					
			1h	2h	3h	4h	5h	6h
Control group	3ml	39.25 $\pm$ 0.20	40.10 $\pm$ 0.43 ^{###}	40.49 $\pm$ 0.34 ^{###}	40.80 $\pm$ 0.27 ^{###}	41.00 $\pm$ 0.37 ^{###}	40.24 $\pm$ 0.37 ^{###}	39.79 $\pm$ 0.36 ^{##}
		Difference	0.85 $\pm$ 0.41	1.24 $\pm$ 0.39	1.55 $\pm$ 0.35	1.75 $\pm$ 0.44	0.99 $\pm$ 0.38	0.54 $\pm$ 0.38
Aspirin group	100mg	39.28 $\pm$ 0.24	39.58 $\pm$ 0.13 ^{###}	39.81 $\pm$ 0.29 ^{###}	39.66 $\pm$ 0.56	39.26 $\pm$ 0.52	39.04 $\pm$ 0.49	38.85 $\pm$ 0.52
		Difference	0.30 $\pm$ 0.15 ^{**}	0.54 $\pm$ 0.30 ^{***}	0.39 $\pm$ 0.59 ^{***}	-0.01 $\pm$ 0.52 ^{***}	-0.24 $\pm$ 0.51 ^{***}	-0.42 $\pm$ 0.53 ^{***}
JSOL group	6g	39.13 $\pm$ 0.36	39.54 $\pm$ 0.45 ^{###}	39.90 $\pm$ 0.52 ^{###}	40.19 $\pm$ 0.55 ^{###}	40.41 $\pm$ 0.50 ^{###}	40.09 $\pm$ 0.57 ^{###}	39.61 $\pm$ 0.38 ^{##}
		Difference	0.41 $\pm$ 0.21 [*]	0.77 $\pm$ 0.37 [*]	1.06 $\pm$ 0.40 [*]	1.29 $\pm$ 0.39 [*]	0.96 $\pm$ 0.39	0.49 $\pm$ 0.36
H-dosage group	4g	39.14 $\pm$ 0.14	39.63 $\pm$ 0.21 ^{###}	39.91 $\pm$ 0.22 ^{###}	40.24 $\pm$ 0.24 ^{###}	40.44 $\pm$ 0.26 ^{###}	39.69 $\pm$ 0.36 ^{##}	39.26 $\pm$ 0.33
		Difference	0.49 $\pm$ 0.17 [*]	0.77 $\pm$ 0.19 ^{**}	1.10 $\pm$ 0.21 ^{**}	1.30 $\pm$ 0.28 [*]	0.55 $\pm$ 0.41 [*]	0.13 $\pm$ 0.38 [*]

M-dosage group	2g	39.28±0.17	39.75±0.09 ^{###}	40.13±0.19 ^{###}	40.44±0.20 ^{###}	40.60±0.15 ^{###}	39.88±0.42	39.44±0.39
		Difference	0.48±0.16 [*]	0.85±0.30 [*]	1.16±0.29 [*]	1.33±0.29 [*]	0.60±0.51	0.16±0.48
L-dosage group	1g	39.25±0.27	39.96±0.18 ^{###}	40.45±0.18 ^{###}	40.71±0.24 ^{###}	40.79±0.19 ^{###}	40.14±0.35 ^{##}	39.69±0.34 [#]
		Difference	0.71±0.30	1.20±0.29	1.46±0.31	1.54±0.36	0.89±0.49	0.44±0.36

Note: ^{*}P<0.05, ^{**}P<0.01, as compared to the control group.

[#]P<0.05; ^{##}P<0.01; ^{###}P<0.001, as self-compared.

It can be seen from the results in Table 7, the body temperatures of the animals in the control model group began to rise in 1 h post pyretogenesis, reached peak in 4 h post pyretogenesis, and decreased gradually in 6 h post pyretogenesis. Pyretolysis in the Aspirin group was obvious and has significant difference as compared to the control model group in 1-6 hours post pyretogenesis (P<0.01 - P<0.001). Pyretolysis in the high dosage group was apparent in 1-6 hours post pyretogenesis, even more apparent in 2-3 hours post pyretogenesis, and has significant difference as compared to the control model group (P<0.05 - P<0.01). Pyretolysis in the medium dosage group has significant difference as compared to the control model group in 1-4 hours post pyretogenesis (P<0.05 - P<0.01). Pyretolysis in the low dosage group was not apparent.

1.4. Summary

The high and medium dosages of the present medication exert an obvious heat-relieving effect on the pyrexial rabbit model induced by *E. coli* endotoxin

2. Effect of the present medication on yeast-induced pyrexia in rats

2.1. Experimental materials

2.1.1. Medications:

(1) The present medication, 10.4 g crude drugs/g, provided by Shijiazhuang Yiling Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd., lot number: 060401, and prepared into the required concentrations with distilled water for the experiment.

(2) Aspirin enteric-coated tablet, 0.3 g/tablet, produced by Yantai JUSTAWARE Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (Yantai the Second Pharmaceutical Factory), lot number: 061102.

(3) Jizhi Syrup Oral Liquor, 200ml/bottle, produced by Fuling Pharmaceutical Factory, Taiji Group, with approval number: SFDA Approval No. Z50020615, production date: November 13, 2006, and lot number of the product: 0611034010.

2.1.2. Pyrogen:

Dried yeast tablet, 0.2g/tablet, produced by Zhanjiang Wuzhou Pharmaceutcal Ltd. (previously known as Zhuxi Count Pharmaceutical Factory, Guangdong Province), lot

number: 0611237.

2.1.3. Animals:

Sixty of the SPF SD rats evenly composed of males and females with the mean body weight of 178.27 ± 10.42 g, provided by Vital River Laboratory Animal Technology Co., Ltd., Beijing, License number: SCXK (Jing) 2002-0003.

2.2. Experiment process

The animals were assigned randomly into the following six groups with ten animals per group, evenly composing of males and females. (1) the control model group administered with physiological saline (10 ml/kg); (2) the Aspirin group (0.15 g/kg); (3) the Jizhi Syrup Oral Liquor group (JSOL group, 11 ml/kg); (4) the high dosage group of the present medication (H-dosage group, 8 g crude drug/kg); (5) the medium dosage group of the present medication (M-dosage group, 4 g crude drug/kg); (6) the low dosage group of the present medication (L-dosage group, 2 g crude drug/kg). The rectal temperatures of the rats were measured twice at the day immediately before the experiment. The average temperature was used as the body temperature prior to administration. The next day, each animal was subjected to intragastrical administration q.d. for consecutive three days (the animals in the control model group were intragastrically administered with equal volume of physiological saline). The rats in the administered group were subcutaneously injected with a suspension of 15% yeast (10ml/kg) in 30 min post the final administration, the rats in the aspirin model group were intragastrically administered once before injection of the yeast suspension. The body temperatures of the rats in the administered groups were determined at 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 hours post the injection. The rats in the administered group were again intragastrically administered (with the same dosage as the aforementioned). Changes in the body temperatures at each of the time points (Δ °C) were calculated. Comparisons among the groups were performed by *t*-test.

2.3. Test results

It can be seen from Table 8 , the body temperatures of the animals in the control model groups began to rise in 2 h post pyretogenesis, reached the peak in 5 h post pyretogenesis, and decreased gradually in 6 h post pyretogenesis. Pyretolysis in the aspirin group was obvious and has significant difference as compared to the control model group in 2-9 hours post pyretogenesis ($P < 0.001$). Pyretolysis in the high dosage group was apparent in 2-9 hours post pyretogenesis, even more apparent in 3-5 hours post pyretogenesis, and has significant difference as compared to the control model group ($P < 0.05$, $P < 0.01$). Pyretolysis in the medium dosage group has significant difference as compared to the control model group in 2-5 hours post pyretogenesis

($P < 0.05$ - $P < 0.01$). Pyretolysis in the low dosage group was not apparent. The experimental results show that the high and medium dosages of the present medication have a significant effect of relieving the yeast-induced pyrexia in rats.

Table 8: Effect of the present medication on rat's body temperature ($n=8$, $\bar{X} \pm SD$)

Group	Dosage (/kg)	Prior to administer (T, °C)	Changes in the body temperature post the final administration (Δ °C)							
			2h	3h	4h	5h	6h	7h	8h	9h
Control model group	10ml	38.88 $\pm$ 0.20	39.19 $\pm$ 0.21 ^{###}	40.05 $\pm$ 0.32 ^{###}	40.23 $\pm$ 0.31 ^{###}	40.38 $\pm$ 0.29 ^{###}	40.25 $\pm$ 0.20 ^{###}	40.14 $\pm$ 0.25 ^{###}	39.99 $\pm$ 0.22 ^{###}	39.65 $\pm$ 0.20 ^{###}
		Difference	0.31 $\pm$ 0.10	1.17 $\pm$ 0.36	1.35 $\pm$ 0.34	1.50 $\pm$ 0.32	1.37 $\pm$ 0.27	1.26 $\pm$ 0.26	1.11 $\pm$ 0.29	0.77 $\pm$ 0.31
Aspirin group	0.15g	38.84 $\pm$ 0.12	38.88 $\pm$ 0.12	39.11 $\pm$ 0.34 [#]	39.19 $\pm$ 0.31 ^{1##}	39.06 $\pm$ 0.26 [#]	38.93 $\pm$ 0.21	38.82 $\pm$ 0.20	38.62 $\pm$ 0.21 [#]	38.51 $\pm$ 0.21 ^{##}
		Difference	0.04 $\pm$ 0.10 ^{***}	0.27 $\pm$ 0.31 ^{***}	0.35 $\pm$ 0.28 ^{***}	0.22 $\pm$ 0.24 ^{***}	0.09 $\pm$ 0.20 ^{***}	-0.02 $\pm$ 0.20 ^{***}	-0.22 $\pm$ 0.25 ^{***}	-0.33 $\pm$ 0.25 ^{***}
JSOL group	11ml	38.88 $\pm$ 0.17	38.98 $\pm$ 0.19	39.68 $\pm$ 0.20 ^{###}	39.81 $\pm$ 0.19 ^{###}	40.03 $\pm$ 0.16 ^{###}	39.96 $\pm$ 0.20 ^{###}	39.93 $\pm$ 0.12 ^{###}	39.81 $\pm$ 0.23 ^{###}	39.68 $\pm$ 0.18 ^{###}
		Difference	0.10 $\pm$ 0.24 [*]	0.80 $\pm$ 0.16 ^{**}	0.93 $\pm$ 0.28 ^{**}	1.15 $\pm$ 0.25 [*]	1.08 $\pm$ 0.29 [*]	1.05 $\pm$ 0.21	0.93 $\pm$ 0.23	0.80 $\pm$ 0.16
H-dosage group	8g	38.91 $\pm$ 0.19	39.09 $\pm$ 0.20 ^{##}	39.52 $\pm$ 0.21 ^{###}	39.74 $\pm$ 0.20 ^{###}	39.92 $\pm$ 0.18 ^{###}	39.93 $\pm$ 0.21 ^{###}	39.83 $\pm$ 0.19 ^{###}	39.69 $\pm$ 0.20 ^{###}	39.33 $\pm$ 0.27 ^{##}
		Difference	0.18 $\pm$ 0.13 [*]	0.61 $\pm$ 0.30 ^{**}	0.83 $\pm$ 0.25 ^{**}	1.01 $\pm$ 0.24 ^{**}	1.02 $\pm$ 0.28 [*]	0.92 $\pm$ 0.27 [*]	0.78 $\pm$ 0.27 [*]	0.42 $\pm$ 0.24 [*]
M-dosage group	4g	38.82 $\pm$ 0.27	39.01 $\pm$ 0.21 ^{###}	39.56 $\pm$ 0.21 ^{###}	39.78 $\pm$ 0.17 ^{###}	39.99 $\pm$ 0.17 ^{###}	39.91 $\pm$ 0.28 ^{###}	39.82 $\pm$ 0.25 ^{###}	39.77 $\pm$ 0.25 ^{###}	39.51 $\pm$ 0.21 ^{###}
		Difference	0.19 $\pm$ 0.10 [*]	0.74 $\pm$ 0.30 ^{**}	0.96 $\pm$ 0.28 [*]	1.17 $\pm$ 0.28 [*]	1.09 $\pm$ 0.38	1.00 $\pm$ 0.30	0.95 $\pm$ 0.28	0.69 $\pm$ 0.35
L-dosage group	2g	38.82 $\pm$ 0.24	39.05 $\pm$ 0.20 ^{###}	39.75 $\pm$ 0.25 ^{###}	39.91 $\pm$ 0.23 ^{###}	40.06 $\pm$ 0.18 ^{###}	40.09 $\pm$ 0.26 ^{###}	39.89 $\pm$ 0.37 ^{###}	39.76 $\pm$ 0.29 ^{###}	39.44 $\pm$ 0.28 ^{###}
		Difference	0.23 $\pm$ 0.08	0.93 $\pm$ 0.29	1.09 $\pm$ 0.32	1.24 $\pm$ 0.30	1.27 $\pm$ 0.26	1.07 $\pm$ 0.28	0.94 $\pm$ 0.18	0.62 $\pm$ 0.36

5 Note: * $P < 0.05$; ** $P < 0.01$; *** $P < 0.001$, as compared to the control model group.

$P < 0.05$; ## $P < 0.01$; ### $P < 0.001$, as self-compared.

2.4. Summary

10 In the experiment, the heat-relieving effect of the present medication was observed on a pyrexial rat model induced by yeast. The results suggest that the high and medium dosages of the present medication can significantly reduce the yeast-induced fever in rats, thus exert better heat-relieving effect ($P < 0.05$, $P < 0.01$).

3. Conclusion:

The two experimental investigations described above suggest that the present medication has an effect of heat- relieving.

Test Example 5: Anti-inflammatory effect of the present medication

1. Effect of the present medication on carrageenan-induced swelling in rat's footpad

1.1. Experimental materials

1.1.1 Medications:

(1) The present medication, 10.4 g crude drugs/g, provided by Shijiazhuang Yiling Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd., lot number: 060401, and prepared into the required concentrations with distilled water for the experiment.

(2) Aspirin enteric-coated tablet, 0.3 g/tablet, produced by Yantai JUSTAWARE Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (Yantai the Second Pharmaceutical Factory), lot number: 061102.

(3) Jizhi Syrup Oral Liquor, 200ml/bottle, produced by Fuling Pharmaceutical Factory, Taiji Group, with approval number: SFDA Approval No. Z50020615, production date: November 13, 2006, and lot number of the product: 0611034010.

(4) Carrageenan, from SIGMA, lot number: 117H0151, prepared into the required concentrations with distilled water for the experiment,

1.1.2. Animals:

Sixty of the Wistar male rats of Grade I with the mean body weight of $130.15 \pm 5.79\text{g}$, provided by Institute of laboratory animal science, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, License number: SCXK (Jing) 2000-0006.

1.2. Experiment process

Sixty of the healthy rats were randomly assigned into the following six groups: (1) the control group administered with physiological saline (10 ml/kg); (2) the Aspirin group (0.15 g /kg); (3) the Jizhi Syrup Oral Liquor group (JSOL group, 11 ml/kg); (4) the high dosage group of the present medication (H-dosage group, 8 g crude drug/kg); (5) the medium dosage group of the present medication (M-dosage group, 4 g crude drug/kg); (6) the low dosage group of the present medication (L-dosage group, 2 g crude drug/kg). The volume of the left hind foot (ml) of each animal was measured by capillary ammplification method and used as the value prior to administration. The intragastrical administration as the route of administration was performed q.d. for consecutive three days, while the animals in the control model group were intragastrically administered with

the equal volume of physiological saline. Each rat was inflamed by subcutaneous injection of 1% carrageenan at 0.05 ml per animal into the rat's left footpad in 30 min post the final administration. The volumes of the rat left hind foot were determined in 0.5, 1, 2, 4, and 6 hours after inflammation. Comparisons among the groups were performed on the differences between the paw volumes before and after inflammation by *t*-test.

1.3. Test results

As shown in Table 9, the high dosage of the present medication can significantly inhibit the rat foot swelling at various time points of 0.5, 1, 2, 4, and 6 hours after inflammation and shows significant difference as compared to the control group ($P < 0.01$, $P < 0.001$); the medium dosage of the present medication can significantly inhibit the rat foot swelling in 0.5, 1, 2, 4, and 6 hours after inflammation and shows significant difference as compared to the control group ($P < 0.05$); and the low dosage of the present medication doesn't show apparent swelling-inhibitory effect.

Table 9: Effect of the present medication on carrageenan-induced swelling in rat's footpad (n=10, $\bar{X} \pm SD$)

Group	Dosage	Before inflammation	Changes in foot volume after inducing inflammation (ml)				
	(/kg)	foot volume (ml)	0.5h	1h	2h	4h	6h
Control model group	10ml	0.96±0.03	1.31±0.06 ^{###}	1.37±0.03 ^{###}	1.43±0.03 ^{###}	1.46±0.02 ^{###}	1.44±0.01 ^{###}
		Difference	0.35±0.07	0.42±0.03	0.47±0.04	0.51±0.03	0.49±0.03
		Swelling rate (%)	36.93±7.94	43.59±4.36	49.15±4.88	53.23±4.04	51.77±4.17
Aspirin group	0.15g	0.98±0.02	1.19±0.04 ^{###}	1.23±0.03 ^{###}	1.28±0.03 ^{###}	1.32±0.03 ^{###}	1.32±0.03 ^{###}
		Difference	0.21±0.04 ^{***}	0.26±0.03 ^{***}	0.31±0.04 ^{***}	0.34±0.04 ^{***}	0.34±0.03 ^{***}
		Swelling rate (%)	21.55±4.53 ^{△△△}	26.27±3.48 ^{△△△}	31.60±4.08 ^{△△△}	35.18±3.98 ^{△△△}	34.57±3.94 ^{△△△}
		Inhibition rate (%)	41.66	39.75	35.70	33.91	33.23
JSOL group	11ml	0.97±0.05	1.24±0.02 ^{###}	1.30±0.04 ^{###}	1.37±0.04 ^{###}	1.41±0.03 ^{###}	1.40±0.03 ^{###}
		Difference	0.27±0.04 ^{**}	0.33±0.07 ^{**}	0.40±0.07 ^{**}	0.44±0.07 ^{**}	0.43±0.07 [*]
		Swelling rate (%)	27.66±5.95 ^{△△}	34.55±8.40 ^{△△}	41.18±8.99 [△]	45.74±9.10 [△]	44.32±9.50 [△]
		Inhibition rate (%)	25.09	20.74	16.20	14.07	14.39

H-dosage group	8g	0.97±0.05	1.24±0.02 ^{###}	1.29±0.03 ^{###}	1.35±0.02 ^{###}	1.41±0.02 ^{###}	1.41±0.03 ^{###}
		Difference	0.26±0.05 ^{**}	0.32±0.05 ^{***}	0.38±0.05 ^{***}	0.44±0.03 ^{***}	0.43±0.03 ^{***}
		Swelling rate (%)	27.40±6.15 ^{△△}	33.16±6.19 ^{△△△}	38.93±6.33 ^{△△△}	45.49±5.55 ^{△△}	44.85±5.25 ^{△△}
		Inhibition rate (%)	25.81	23.94	20.78	14.54	13.36
M-dosage group	4g	0.98±0.06	1.25±0.02 ^{###}	1.33±0.02 ^{###}	1.39±0.02 ^{###}	1.43±0.02 ^{###}	1.44±0.02 ^{###}
		Difference	0.27±0.06 [*]	0.36±0.06 [*]	0.42±0.05 [*]	0.45±0.06 [*]	0.46±0.06
		Swelling rate (%)	28.45±7.60 [*]	37.12±8.53 [*]	43.01±7.70 [*]	46.94±8.40 [*]	47.55±8.50
		Inhibition rate (%)	22.96	14.86	12.49	11.82	8.14
L-dosage group	2g	0.98±0.05	1.28±0.01 ^{###}	1.36±0.02 ^{###}	1.41±0.03 ^{###}	1.45±0.03 ^{###}	1.44±0.03 ^{###}
		Difference	0.30±0.05	0.39±0.05	0.43±0.05	0.47±0.05	0.47±0.04
		Swelling rate (%)	31.25±6.56	39.86±6.53	44.77±6.70	48.88±7.19	48.02±6.16
		Inhibition rate (%)	15.38	8.57	8.91	8.16	7.25

Note: * P<0.05; ** P<0.01; *** P<0.001, as compared to the control group.

###P<0.001, as self-compared.

△P<0.0015; △△P<0.01; △△△P<0.001, as compared to the control group.

1.4. Summary

- 5 The results suggest that the high and medium dosages of the present medication can significantly inhibit the carrageenan-induced swelling inflammation in the rat footpad (P<0.05, P<0.01, P<0.001).

2. Effect of the present medication on xylene-induced ear swelling in mice

2.1. Experimental materials

10 2.1.1. Animals:

Sixty of the SPF ICR male mice with the mean body weight of 20.35 ± 0.61 g, provided by Vital River Laboratory Animal Technology Co., Ltd., Beijing, License number: SCXK (Jing) 2002-0003.

2.1.2. Medications:

- 15 (1) The present medication, 10.4 g crude drugs/g, provided by Shijiazhuang Yiling Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd., lot number: 040401, and prepared into the required

concentrations with distilled water for the experiment.

(2) Aspirin enteric-coated tablet, 0.3 g/tablet, produced by Yantai Justaware Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (Yantai the Second Pharmaceutical Factory), lot number: 061102.

(3) Jizhi Syrup Oral Liquor, 200ml/bottle, produced by Fuling Pharmaceutical Factory, Taiji Group, with approval number: SFDA Approval No. Z50020615, production date: November 13, 2006, and lot number of the product: 0611034010.

2.1.3. Reagent:

Xylene, A.P., produced by Beijing Chemical Plant, lot number: 060202.

2.2. Experiment process

Sixty of the healthy mice were randomly assigned into the following six groups with ten animals per group: (1) the control model group administered with physiological saline (25 ml/kg); (2) the Aspirin group (0.2 g/kg); (3) the Jizhi Syrup Oral Liquor group (JSOL group, 16 ml/kg); (4) the high dosage group of the present medication (H-dosage group, 12 g crude drug/kg); (5) the medium dosage group of the present medication (M-dosage group, 6 g crude drug/kg); (6) the low dosage group of the present medication (L-dosage group, 3 g crude drug/kg). Each mouse was subjected to intragastrical administration q.d. for consecutive three days, and at 30 minutes after the administration at Day 3, 0.1 ml of xylene was dropped onto the right ear of the mouse. Fifteen minutes later, the animal was sacrificed by dislocation. Holes were punched with a hole puncher of 6 mm at the identical sites on the right and left auricles. The pieces from the right and left ears were weighted respectively on an electronic balance. The degree of ear swelling for each mouse was calculated by subtraction of the weight of the left piece from that of the right piece. Comparisons of the degree of ear swelling (mg) among the groups were performed by *t*-test.

2.3. Test result

As shown in Table 10, the right ears of the mice in the control group significantly swell with increased thickness, and was obvious different from the left ears. The high and medium dosages of the present medication can significantly inhibit the xylene-induced ear inflammation in mice, in which the swellings of right ears in the mice reduce significantly and show significant difference as compared to the control model group ($P < 0.05$ - $P < 0.01$). The low dosage of the present medication has an inapparent swelling-inhibitory effect and shows no significant difference as compared to the control model group. The experimental results show that the high and medium dosages of the present medication exert better anti-inflammation effect on the xylene-induced ear swelling mouse model.

Table 10: Effect of the present medication on xylene-induced ear swelling in mice (n =10

$\bar{X} \pm SD$)

Group	Dosage	Animal	Swelling degree
	(/kg)	(number)	(mg)
Control model group	25ml	10	8.30±2.00
Aspirin group	0.2g	10	3.80±0.79 ^{***}
JSOL group	16g	10	4.50±2.68 ^{**}
H-dosage group	12g	10	5.40±1.84 ^{**}
M-dosage group	6g	10	5.70±3.06 [*]
L-dosage group	3g	10	7.20±2.66

Note: ^{*}P<0.05; ^{**}P<0.01; ^{***}P<0.001, as compared to the control group.

2.4. Summary

5 The experimental results show that the high and medium dosages of the present medication exert significant anti-inflammation effect on the xylene-induced ear swelling mouse model (P<0.05, P<0.01).

3 Conclusion:

10 The two experimental investigations described above suggest that the present medication has an anti-inflammation effect.

Test example 6: Investigation on the toxicology of the present medication

15 1. An acute toxication experiment on the present medication was performed with mice. Since the LD₅₀ could not be measured, the maximum dose was determined. The mice were intragastrically administered. The experimental result indicates that the animals have no adverse reaction and death when administered with a maximum dose of 280g crude drug/kg which is 436 times of the clinical dose (the clinical dose is 45g crude drug/person/day, assuming the weight of person being 70kg). The animals were
20 autopsied at the end of the experiment and no pathological change in each of the organs was observed with naked eyes.

2. 120 of the wistar rats were assigned into the control group and the test groups of the present medication with dosages of 15 g, 30 g, and 60 g crude drug/kg (which are 25, 50, 100 times of the clinical dosage respectively), intragastrically administered for

consecutive 12 and 24 weeks, and recovered (that is, underwent drug withdrawal for 4 weeks). Experimental results show that after administered for 12 and 24 weeks and during the recovery period, the rats in the test groups exhibit no significant differences in body weight, amount of food ingestion and clotting time as compared to those in the control group. The measured haematological indices show that the animals in the high dosage group after 12 weeks' administration and the animals in the medium dosage group during the recovery period have increased RBC and HGB values in comparison with those in the control group ($P<0.05$), wherein the RBC value falls within the normal rang (7.49 ± 0.64) and the HGB value may associate with slightly higher values of a few animals. All of the other haematological indices in the test groups after 24 weeks' administration and during the recovery period show no significant difference in comparison with the control group. Reticulocyte counts in each of the test groups of 12 weeks administration, 24 weeks administration and the recovery period show no significant difference in comparison with the control group. The measured twelve blood biochemical indices show that the ALT and GLU values in the medium dosage group and the AST value in the low dosage group after 12 weeks' administration slightly increase in comparison with those in the control group ($P<0.05$), and all of them fall within the normal rang (being 43.15 ± 21.84 , 6.18 ± 2.04 , and 139.80 ± 40.25 , respectively, $n=630$). All of the other blood biochemical indices in the test groups after 24 weeks' administration and the recovery period (drug withdrawal for 4 weeks) show no significant difference in comparison with the control group. In each group of 12 weeks administration, 24 weeks administration and recovery period (drug withdrawal for 4 weeks), no abnormal electrocardiographic indices in the standard lead II electrocardiogram such as PR interval, QRS interval, QT interval, T wave amplitude, heart rate, etc. were observed. By gross observation in anatomy, no abnormal changes in organs of the animals from each of the groups were found and the organ indexes were of no significant difference. In the pathological examination, no apparent toxically pathological changes caused by the present medication in the organs were found.

3. Conclusion:

It has been demonstrated via the acute toxicity test (the maximum dose experiment) and the chronic toxicity test that the various indices in each test group show no significant difference in comparison with the control group. In the pathological examination, no apparent toxically pathological changes caused by the present medication in organs were found. Thus, the present medication is confirmed to be of no toxicity.

In conclusion, it has been confirmed from various respects such as checking cough, dispelling phlegm, relieving asthma, anti-inflammation, etc. that the present medication

has good therapeutic efficacy on bronchitis, particularly has excellent therapeutic efficacy on acute tracheobronchitis.

Claims

1. An EPHEDRAE HERBA-containing pharmaceutical composition for treatment of bronchitis, characterized in that, said pharmaceutical composition is made from the medicinal materials in the following parts by weight:

5	EPHEDRAE HERBA 52-86	GYPSUM FIBROSUM 194-324
	FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS 194-324	SCUTELLARIAE RADIX 78-130
	MORI CORTEX 194-324	ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM 78-130
	PEUCEDANI RADIX 78-130	PINELLIAE RHIZOMA 78-130
	CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM 78-130	FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS 78-130
10	ARCTII FRUCTUS 78-130	LONICERAE FLOS 78-130
	RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA 39-65	PLATYCODONIS RADIX 46-76 and
	GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA 39-65.	

2. The EPHEDRAE HERBA-containing pharmaceutical composition for treatment of bronchitis according to Claim 1, characterized in that, said pharmaceutical composition is made from the medicinal materials in the following parts by weight:

15	EPHEDRAE HERBA 52	GYPSUM FIBROSUM 324
	FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS 194	SCUTELLARIAE RADIX 78
	MORI CORTEX 194	ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM 130
	PEUCEDANI RADIX 78	PINELLIAE RHIZOMA 130
20	CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM 78	FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS 78
	ARCTII FRUCTUS 130	LONICERAE FLOS 130
	RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA 39	PLATYCODONIS RADIX 76 and
	GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA 65.	

3. The EPHEDRAE HERBA-containing pharmaceutical composition for treatment of bronchitis according to Claim 1, characterized in that, said pharmaceutical composition is made from the medicinal materials in the following part by weight:

25	EPHEDRAE HERBA 86	GYPSUM FIBROSUM 194
	FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS 324	SCUTELLARIAE RADIX 130
	MORI CORTEX 324	ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM 78
30	PEUCEDANI RADIX 130	PINELLIAE RHIZOMA 78
	CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM 130	FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS 130

ARCTII FRUCTUS 78

LONICERAE FLOS 78

RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA 65

PLATYCODONIS RADIX 46 and

GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA 39.

4. The EPHEDRAE HERBA-containing pharmaceutical composition for treatment of
5 bronchitis according to Claim 1, characterized in that, said pharmaceutical composition is
made from the medicinal materials in the following part by weight:

EPHEDRAE HERBA 69

GYPSUM FIBROSUM 259

FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS 259

SCUTELLARIAE RADIX 104

MORI CORTEX 259

ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM 104

10 PEUCEDANI RADIX 104

PINELLIAE RHIZOMA 104

CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM 104

FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS 104

ARCTII FRUCTUS 104

LONICERAE FLOS 104

RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA 52

PLATYCODONIS RADIX 61 and

GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA 52.

15 5. The EPHEDRAE HERBA-containing pharmaceutical composition for treatment of
bronchitis according to Claim 1, characterized in that, said pharmaceutical composition is
made from the medicinal materials in the following part by weight:

EPHEDRAE HERBA 55

GYPSUM FIBROSUM 254

FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS 318

SCUTELLARIAE RADIX 107

20 MORI CORTEX 203

ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM 107

PEUCEDANI RADIX 82

PINELLIAE RHIZOMA 105

CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM 84

FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS 125

ARCTII FRUCTUS 122

LONICERAE FLOS 113

RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA 42

PLATYCODONIS RADIX 60 and

25 GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA 50.

6. The EPHEDRAE HERBA-containing pharmaceutical composition for treatment of
bronchitis according to Claim 1, characterized in that, said pharmaceutical composition is
made from the medicinal materials in the following part by weight:

EPHEDRAE HERBA 84

GYPSUM FIBROSUM 313

30 FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS 298

SCUTELLARIAE RADIX 98

MORI CORTEX 274

ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM 105

PEUCEDANI RADIX 116

PINELLIAE RHIZOMA 123

CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM 95

FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS 88

ARCTII FRUCTUS 80

LONICERAE FLOS 99

RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA 63

PLATYCODONIS RADIX 55 and

5 GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA 43.

7. The pharmaceutical composition according to any one of Claims 1-6 , characterized in that, said ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM is ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM TOSTUM and the PINELLIAE RHIZOMA is PINELLIAE RHIZOMA PRAEPARATUM CUM ALUMINE.

10 8. The pharmaceutical composition according to any one of Claims 1-6 , characterized in that, the pharmaceutical composition is prepared by steps of:

(1) weighing FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS according to the parts set forth in a prescription and pulverizing the same into fine powder for later use;

15 (2) weighing EPHEDRAE HERBA, FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS, SCUTELLARIAE RADIX, ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM, PINELLIAE RHIZOMA, ARCTII FRUCTUS, and RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA according to the parts set forth in the prescription and extracting the same two times under reflux with 40-70% ethanol solution, each time for 1-4 hours, in which the amount of the ethanol solution is 8 -10 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 6-9 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; pooling the extracts and then filtrating the mixed solution; recovering ethanol from the filtrate under a reduced pressure and concentrating at the same time to obtain a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14 - 1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, for later use;

25 (3) weighing GYPSUM FIBROSUM, MORI CORTEX, PEUCEDANI RADIX, CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM, LONICERAE FLOS, PLATYCODONIS RADIX, and GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA according to the parts set forth in the prescription and decocting the same two times with water, each time for 1-4 hours, in which the amount of the water is 9-11 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 7-9 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; then, pooling the decoctions, 30 filtrating the mixed solution, concentrating the filtrate under a reduced pressure to obtain a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, and combining the clear paste with the clear paste obtained in step (2) for later use;

the fine powder obtained in step (1) and the combined clear pastes obtained in step (3) constitutes the active component of the pharmaceutical composition.

9. The pharmaceutical composition according to any one of Claims 1-6, characterized in that, the pharmaceutical composition is in form of hard capsules, tablets, powders, oral liquids, soft capsules, pills, tinctures, syrups, suppositories, gels, sprays or injections.

10. The pharmaceutical composition according to Claims 9, characterized in that, the tablets of the pharmaceutical composition are prepared by steps of:

(1) weighing FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS according to the parts set forth in a prescription and pulverizing the same into fine powder for later use;

(2) weighing EPHEDRAE HERBA, FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS, SCUTELLARIAE RADIX, ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM, PINELLIAE RHIZOMA, ARCTII FRUCTUS, and RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA according to the parts set forth in the prescription and extracting the same two times under reflux with 40-70% ethanol solution, each time for 1-4 hours, in which the amount of the ethanol solution is 8-10 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight medicinal materials for the first time and 6-9 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; pooling the extracts and filtrating the mixed solution; recovering ethanol from the filtrate under a reduced pressure and concentrating at the same time to obtain a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14 - 1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, for later use;

(3) weighing GYPSUM FIBROSUM, MORI CORTEX, PEUCEDANI RADIX, CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM, LONICERAE FLOS, PLATYCODONIS RADIX, and GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA according to the parts set forth in the prescription and decocting two times with water, each time for 1-4 hours, in which the amount of the water is 9-11 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 7-9 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; then, pooling the decoctions and filtrating the mixed solution, concentrating the filtrate under a reduced pressure to obtain a clear paste with the relative density of 1.14-1.16 thermally measured at 60 °C, and combined the clear paste with the clear paste obtained in step (2) for later use;

(4) spray drying the combined clear pastes obtained in step (3) and collecting the atomized powder for later use;

(5) providing materials in parts by weight for tableting as follows:

atomized powder obtained in step (4)	200-355;	fine powder obtained in step (1)	54-145;
carboxymethylstarch sodium	10-15.5;	microcrystalline cellulose	7-12;
magnesium stearate	1.5-3.5;	starch	proper amount;

(6) tableting according to conventional formulation process.

11. The pharmaceutical composition according to Claims 10, characterized in that,

the tablets of the pharmaceutical composition are prepared by steps of:

(1) weighing FRITILLARIAE THUNBERGII BULBUS according to the parts set forth in a prescription and pulverizing the same into fine powder for later use;

(2) weighing EPHEDRAE HERBA, FORSYTHIAE FRUCTUS, SCUTELLARIAE RADIX, ARMENIACAE SEMEN AMARUM, PINELLIAE RHIZOMA, ARCTII FRUCTUS, and RHEI RADIX ET RHIZOMA according to the parts set forth in the prescription and extracting two times under reflux with 50% ethanol solution, each time for 3 hours, in which the amount of the ethanol solution is 10 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of the medicinal materials for the first time and 6 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; pooling the extracts and filtrating the mixed solution; recovering ethanol from the filtrate under a reduced pressure and concentrating at the same time to obtain a clear paste with the relative density of 1.15 thermally measured at 60 °C, for later use;

(3) weighing GYPSUM FIBROSUM, MORI CORTEX, PEUCEDANI RADIX, CITRI RETICULATAE PERICARPIUM, LONICERAE FLOS, PLATYCODONIS RADIX, and GLYCYRRHIZAE RADIX ET RHIZOMA according to the parts set forth in the prescription and decocting two times with water, each time for 2 hours, in which the amount of the added water is 10 times by v/w (ml/g) of the weight of medicinal materials for the first time and 7 times by v/w (ml/g) for the second time; then, pooling the decoctions, filtrating the mixed solution, concentrating the filtrate under a reduced pressure to obtain a clear paste with the relative density of 1.15 thermally measured at 60 °C, and combined the clear paste with the clear paste obtained in step (2) for later use;

(4) spray drying the combined clear pastes obtained in step (3) and collecting the atomized powder for later use;

(5) providing materials in parts by weight for tableting as follows:

atomized powder obtained in step (4)	282.6;	fine powder obtained in step (1)	101;
carboxymethylstarch sodium	12.5;	microcrystalline cellulose	9.0;
magnesium stearate	2.25;	starch	proper amount;

(6) tableting according to conventional formulation process.

12. The EPHEDRAE HERBA-containing pharmaceutical composition for treatment of bronchitis according to any one of Claims 1-6, characterized in that, said bronchitis is an acute tracheobronchitis.