CLAIMS

1. Compositions consisting of phospholipid-complexed curcumin and an extract selected from an *Echinacea angustifolia* extract or a *Zanthoxylum bungeanum* lipophilic extract, mixed with acceptable excipients.

2. Compositions according to claim 1 wherein the *Echinacea angustifolia* and *Zanthoxylum bungeanum* extracts are prepared by extraction with supercritical carbon dioxide.

3. Compositions according to claim 1 or 2, for oral administration.

4. Compositions according to claim 3, containing as the only active ingredients curcumin complexed with phospholipids in amounts ranging from 100 to 1000 mg, and the *Echinacea angustifolia* extract in amounts ranging from 1 to 20 mg, or alternatively the *Zanthoxylum bungeanum* lipophilic extract in amounts ranging from 5 to 25 mg per oral unit dose.

5. Compositions according to claim 4, containing as the only active ingredients 500 mg of curcumin complexed with phospholipids, and 5 mg of the *Echinacea angustifolia* extract, or alternatively 10 mg of the *Zanthoxylum bungeanum* lipophilic extract, per oral unit dose.

6. Compositions according to claim 1 or 2, for topical administration.

7. Compositions according to claim 6, containing curcumin complexed with phospholipids in amounts ranging from 0.1% to 0.5% w/w, and the *Echinacea angustifolia* extract in amounts ranging from 0.05% to 0.5% w/w, or the *Zanthoxylum bungeanum* lipophilic extract in amounts ranging from 0.1 to 1% w/w.

8. Compositions according to claim 7, containing 0.2% w/w of curcumin

complexed with phospholipids, and 0.2% w/w of the *Echinacea angustifolia* extract, or alternatively 0.5% w/w of the *Zanthoxylum bungeanum* lipophilic extract.

9. Compositions according to any one of claims 1-8 for use in the treatment of peripheral pain, joint and muscle pain, inflammatory conditions, superficial pain and deep pain conditions.

10. Compositions according to any one of claims 1-8 for use in the treatment of osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis.

11. Use of compositions according to any one of claims 1-8 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of peripheral pain, joint and muscle pain, inflammatory conditions, superficial pain and deep pain conditions.

12. Use of compositions according to any one of claims 1-8 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis.