

Colloidal Silver and “Blue Man Syndrome” (argyria)

Is argyria a real thing? Yes. Is it caused by using colloidal silver? Not really.

"Blue Man" Paul Karason ("Papa Smurf") in California became the infamous mascot and media darling of anti-colloidal-silver propaganda.

Paul openly admitted to making highly-concentrated solutions of colloidal silver using TAP WATER WITH ADDED SALT as an accelerant, to boost the concentration above normal levels.

By his own admission he was drinking between 10 to 20 fl. oz. per day of this highly-concentrated silver chloride solution. Indeed, he apparently did so daily for over 10 years before his facial skin began to turn blue.

So not only was this fellow's homemade "colloidal silver" far more concentrated than normal (10x+) but he was drinking a LOT of it daily for 14 years. Also, it was obviously a SILVER (salt) SOLUTION, not "colloidal silver" (EIS/electrolytically isolated silver).

A colloid is by definition a SUSPENSION of particles, NOT A SOLUTION. Ionic silver is a solution, as are "silver proteins" and other silver compounds.

Papa Smurf was brewing for one hour one pint (500 ml) of colloidal silver with a 30-volt device using tap water, into which he had added extra salt. He drank the whole pint of this dark, coffee-colored CS everyday for 14 years. He later admitted that he wanted to turn blue to become a celebrity. He also didn't get sick once during those 14 years. You must go to great lengths to cause argyria (blue/gray skin). It's not easy. It takes commitment, consistency and dedication. It's NOT something you will accidentally cause.

Papa Smurf's blue appearance was also augmented by the pharmaceutical-funded mass media, to exaggerate his sensational super smurfiness.

So! Beware any method of accelerating production of colloidal silver. SLOW is better! Creating a good pint/liter takes roughly a DAY, not an HOUR. Anything that accelerates production of colloidal silver also increased the particle size, making it far less effective. Acceleration also contributes to the formation of silver compounds such as silver oxide, silver nitrate, silver chloride, silver hydrochloride, etc. Despite some flashy marketing, speed is NOT your friend! Methods of acceleration include:

- Using ANYTHING BUT distilled water. Examples include tap water, filtered water, RO water.
- ADDING SALTS or sodium bicarbonate (baking soda) to the water. Doing so greatly increases the speed of production by increasing the electrical conductivity of the water. This results in larger particle/ion size, and the production of silver compounds as the silver combines with other elements.
- HEATING the water. Some people "brew" using a hot-plate.
- Fluctuating water temperature during production. Keep it slow, steady and room-temperature!

Beware any "colloidal silver" that appears dark or cloudy. This is generally indicative of SILVER COMPOUNDS (salts), which have very little if any benefit, and... turn people blue/gray. Again, this is often marketed as "strong" due to its dark color. It may indeed be "strong", but the silver content DOES NOT consist of tiny colloidal particles.

Colloidal content cannot be measured using a TDS (total dissolved solids) meter. These only measure IONIC content, or the presence of other minerals, salts, etc. which are DISSOLVED in the water. Silver compounds (like silver nitrate and silver sulfadiazine used in hospitals) have VERY little efficacy compared to colloidal silver, or even ionic silver. And... CAN TURN PEOPLE BLUE/GRAY. These are the major culprit of argyria.

Argyria has also been caused by extensive intravenous use of silver salt compounds (like silver sulfadiazine in hospitals). Argyria is also possible when huge quantities of IONIC silver are used. This is one reason that a good ratio of ionic to colloidal is important. The colloidal particles allow excessive ions to plate for excretion, BEFORE finding their way to a person's skin. Electrolytically Isolated Silver (EIS) is the proper name of "colloidal silver", and actually contains BOTH colloidal silver and some ionic silver. It is impossible to produce "colloidal silver" without ending up with some ionic content. COLLOIDAL silver, IONIC silver and silver COMPOUNDS (including "mild silver proteins") are three different things.

SUMMARY: Argyria is caused by using EXCESSIVE AMOUNTS of POORLY MADE silver SOLUTIONS. This is why it is important to produce COLLOIDAL (not ionic or salt/"protein" solution) silver SLOWLY (small colloidal particle size), and use it in APPROPRIATE AMOUNTS (teaspoons not quarts). While for certain objectives larger amounts are good for short periods, a typical prophylactic amount is roughly 1tsp.-1tbsp. per day.

There are no known health detriments to argyria.

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