PHARM.D • YEAR 1

Pharmaceutics

CHAPTER 9

Galenicals

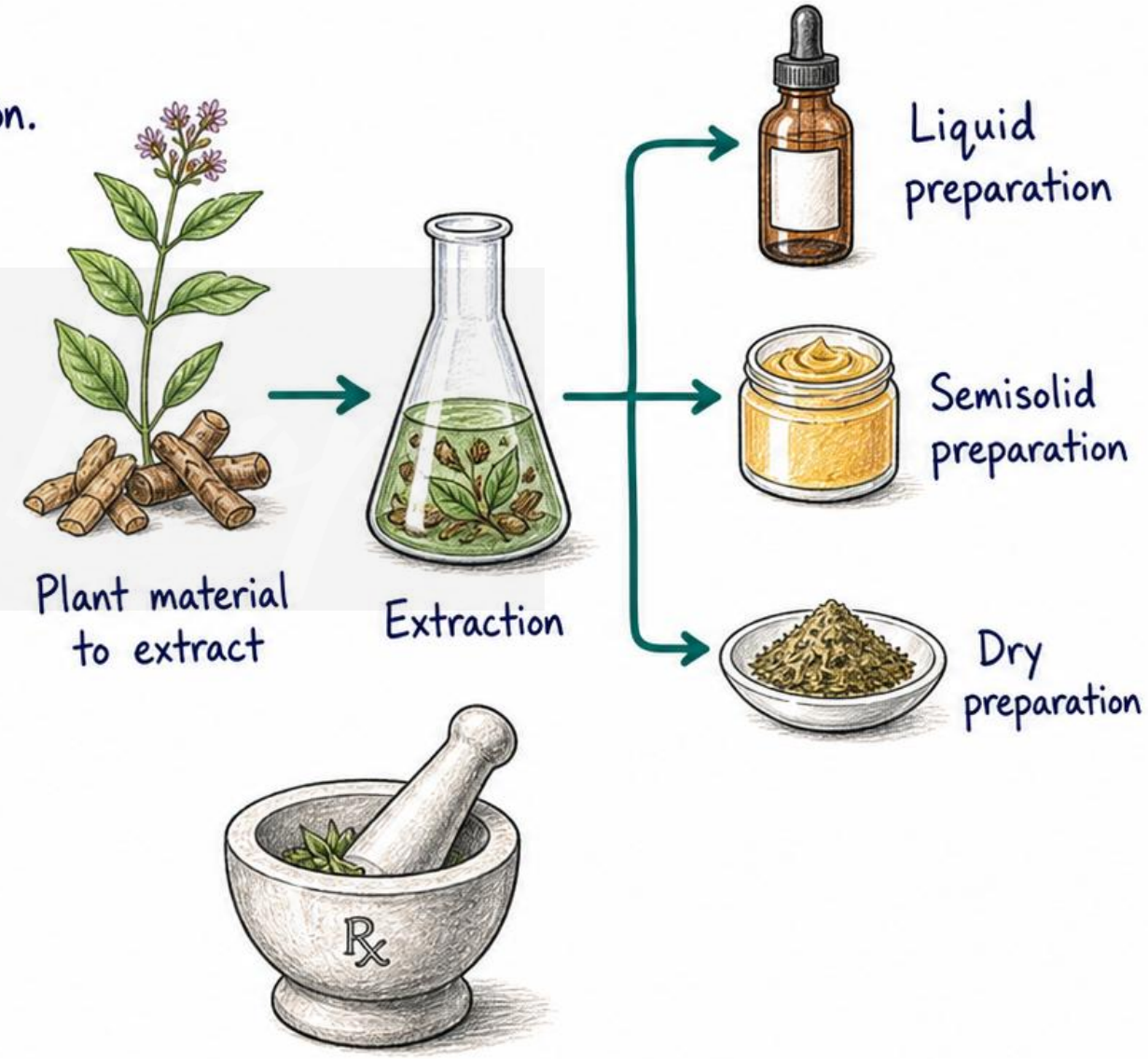
PPT CHAPTER COVER



DOCTOR OF PHARMACY

GALENICALS: ORIGIN AND SCOPE

- Galenicals are traditional medicinal preparations made from natural materials, commonly by extraction.
- The name recalls Galen and the history of pharmaceutical compounding.
- They contain mixtures of constituents rather than necessarily a single purified chemical.
- Typical forms include tinctures, infusions, decoctions and extracts.
- The broader galenic tradition also includes compounded solids and semisolids.
- Natural origin does not guarantee safety, purity or consistent potency.



EXTRACTION: IMPORTANT TERMS

CRUDE DRUG:
the starting natural material.



MENSTRUUM:
the solvent or solvent mixture used for extraction.



MARC:
the insoluble residue left after extraction.



EXTRACTIVE LIQUID:
solvent containing dissolved constituents.



- Select the solvent for solubility, stability, selectivity and safety.
- Particle size, temperature, contact time and agitation affect extraction.
- Excessive grinding can make filtration difficult or obstruct a packed bed.

INFUSION



- Water extracts soluble constituents from suitable soft plant parts, such as leaves and flowers.
- Hot or cold infusion may be chosen according to the material.

GENERAL SEQUENCE



Prepare material → add specified water → steep covered → strain or filter → collect.

- Equipment: covered vessel, water bath or heating source when needed, stirrer and filter.
- Temperature and standing time follow the formula.
- Aqueous preparations need appropriate microbial and storage control.

DECOCTION

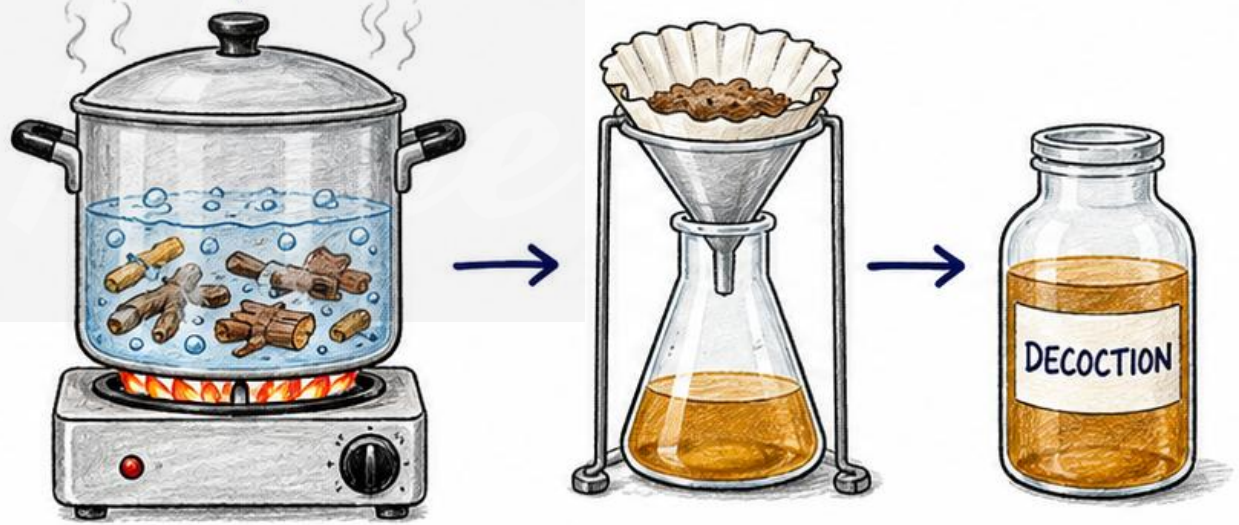
- Boiling or simmering water extracts constituents from suitable harder plant materials, such as roots or bark.
- Choose material whose desired constituents tolerate heat.

GENERAL SEQUENCE

Coarse material + water → controlled heating → cooling as specified → separation of marc.

- Equipment may include a kettle, heater, stirrer and filtration system.
- A condenser can reduce solvent loss when the process requires it.
- Not suitable for every volatile or heat-sensitive constituent.







HEAT-SENSITIVE CONSTITUENTS

USE CAUTION

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