HOMEMADE COUGH DROPS

Ingredients

- 1 cup of water infused with herbs. (Try using slippery elm, coltsfoot, cinnamon, elderberry and chamomile)
- 1.5 cups of raw, organic honey
- 2 Tbls. organic, unrefined coconut oil
- 20 drops of essential oils *

Instructions

- Pre-mix coconut and essential oils (dilutes them to prevent burning your throat).
- Boil 2 cups of water and infuse with desired herbs. Use about ¼ cup of each herb for a really potent cough drop, but as little as 1 tablespoon of each herb is effective.
- > To infuse: Pour boiling water over herbs. Put herbs in a muslin bag to make straining easier. Let steep for 20 minutes and strain out herbs (or remove bag).
- Pour 1 cup of the herb infused water and 1.5 cups of honey into a medium saucepan and turn on medium high heat. (save the extra liquid and mix with equal parts raw honey for a simple cough syrup)
- > Stir the honey/herb mixture over medium high heat until it reaches 300 degrees. If you don't have a candy thermometer, this usually takes about 30 minutes and can be tested by dropping a drop of the mixture in to ice water to see if it immediately hardens. It should harden to the point that it breaks if dropped on the counter. You can also tell because the mixture will start to foam and separate. At this point, it is vital to remove it from the heat quickly so it does not burn.
- Mix in coconut oil and essential oil mixture and pour into candy molds, or pour into a large baking sheet that has been greased with coconut oil or that has a silicon baking mat on it.
- Let cool until it can be touched and molded and immediately and quickly form into lozenges with your hands (you might need help to do this quickly enough).

HOMEMADE COUGH DROP (CONT.)

Instructions

- Put finished cough drops/lozenges on a silicon mat or piece of parchment paper to cool.
- When completely cool, toss in a mixture of powdered slippery elm and stevia to keep from getting sticky in humidity.
- > Use as needed for coughing, congestion or sore throat.

Dr. Z's Note:

* * Research and experience suggest that these oils are some of the most potent against bacterial throat infections, or that have an antitussive effect: tea tree, lavender, fragonia, peppermint, lemon; basil, mint, rosemary, and lavender have been known to inhibit Staphylococcus aureus. (https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3638616/)