

## Drug Status Report

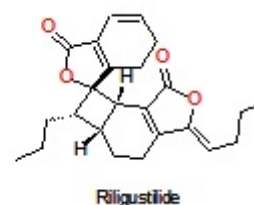
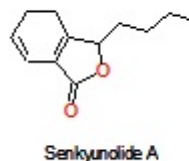
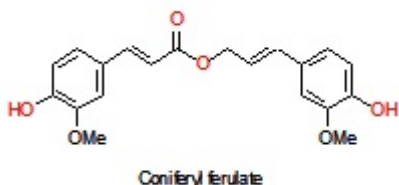
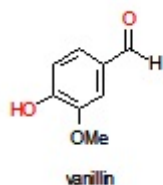
**Drug:** Niu Huang Qing Xin Pill

**Drug Name Status:** Niu Huang Qing Xin Pill is the brand name.

Niu Huang Qing Xin Pill is a herbal supplement used in traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) and is claimed to contain artificial Calculus Bovis and the Rhizoma of Chuan Xiong.

Artificial *Calculus Bovis* is a synthetic mixture of bile acids and bilirubin<sup>1</sup> and is used in TCM for relieving fever, reducing inflammation and restoring the normal function of the gall bladder. Recently, the status of Niu Huang Qing Huo Pill, another traditional Chinese medicine containing artificial Calculus Bovis, was reviewed and it was determined that the ingredient does not contain any substances that would be considered controlled substances under the CDSA.

The rhizoma of Chuan Xiong, also known as *Ligusticum Chuanxiong* Hort. (Umbelliferae) or Lovage root, is used in TCM for treating a variety of conditions including heartburn, flatulence, indigestion and stomach distention, menstrual irregularities, urinary tract infections and headaches<sup>2</sup>. It has also been reported to be effective in treating cardiovascular diseases such as angina, arrhythmia and stroke<sup>3</sup>. Many of the bioactive compounds in Chuan Xiong have been identified and include a variety of alkaloids, phenols and phthalides, for example vanillin, coniferyl ferulate, Senkyunolide A and Riligutillide<sup>3</sup>.



Canadian Status: Niu Huang Qing Xin Pill is not listed in the CDSA and does not contain any substances similar to those listed in the schedules to the CDSA.

Recommendation: Niu Huang Qing Xin Pill is not included in any of the Schedules to the CDSA and is not a controlled substance.

January 12<sup>th</sup> 2010

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<sup>1</sup>Yan, S-K. *et al.* (2007) Comparative study on major bioactive components in natural, artificial and in-vitro cultured Calculus Bovis, Chem. Pharm. Bull. **55**:128-132.

<sup>2</sup><http://tcm.health-info.org/Herbology.Materia.Medica/chuanxiong-properties.htm>

<sup>3</sup>Lin, S-L. *et al.* (2003) Simultaneous analysis of seventeen chemical ingredients of *Ligusticum chuanxiong* by on-line high performance liquid chromatography-diode array-mass spectrometry, Planta med. **69**:445-451.

