

**Cardio Care**\* **PHYTONUTRIENT SUPPLEMENT** 

# Nutrient and herbal combination for cardiovascular support\*

- Helps to support cardiovascular health and muscle function\*
- Helps to promote healthy lipid and energy metabolism\*
- Promotes antioxidant defense\*
- · Includes standardized extracts from garlic, hawthorn and Cardiophenol<sup>™</sup> fruit blend

Cardio Care supports cardiovascular health using a unique combination of coenzyme Q<sub>10</sub>, magnesium and standardized plant extracts.<sup>1-11\*</sup> Coenzyme Q<sub>10</sub> is required for electron transfer in the mitochondrial respiratory chain, which produces energy necessary for cellular functions and muscle contractions.<sup>2,3</sup> As a result, its highest levels are found in the most metabolically active tissues, including the heart.<sup>2</sup> Coenzyme Q<sub>10</sub> supplementation has been shown to promote cardiovascular health in adults, including healthy blood flow and myocardial function.<sup>4,5</sup>\* Along with Cardiophenol<sup>™</sup> grape and organic cranberry extract, it also provides antioxidant defense, promotes the integrity of vitamin E, and may support healthy lipid metabolism.<sup>6-8\*</sup> Cardio Care also includes garlic to promote healthy lipid metabolism, plus magnesium to support muscle function.9-11\*



## Supplement Eacto

Serving Size 1 Capsule Servings per Container 60		
Each Capsule Contains		%DV
Vitamin C (as ascorbyl palmitate)	7 mg	12%
Magnesium (as magnesium citrate)	50 mg	13%
Cardiophenol <sup>™</sup> Proprietary Blend Grape ( <i>Vitis vinifera</i> ) Seed Extract Organic Cranberry ( <i>Vaccinium macrocarpon</i> ) Fruit Extract	115 mg	†
Garlic (Allium sativum) Bulb Std. Extract (1% Allicin)	100 mg	+
Hawthorn ( <i>Crataegus monogyna/laevigata</i> ) Flower and Leaf Std. Extract (3-6:1) (165-330 mg Dried Equivalent/1.5% Flavonoids)	55 mg	†
Coenzyme $Q_{10}$ (from yeast fermentation)	40 mg	+
† Daily Value (DV) not established		

Other ingredients: Hypromellose, silica

Recommended Adult Dose: Take one to two capsules daily or as recommended by your healthcare practitioner.

Product Size: 60 Vegetable Capsules Product Code: 10363



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\* These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease.

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# Scientific Rationale:

## Cardiophenol™

Oxidative stress can be generated by cellular respiration and certain enzyme systems.<sup>1</sup> The production of free radicals can result in the oxidative damage of lipids, proteins and nucleic acids, impairing the normal function of cells.<sup>31</sup> Free radical formation increases naturally with age and is amplified during exercise, as contracting muscles produce higher levels of oxidants.<sup>1,2\*</sup> In turn, oxidative stress during exercise can mediate the function of contractile proteins and result in muscular fatique.<sup>2\*</sup> Antioxidants decrease oxidative stress by reacting with free radicals to prevent their propagation.1\*

Cardiophenol<sup>™</sup> is a blend of grape and organic cranberry extracts. Clinical trials have found that cranberry and grape seed extracts contain polyphenols that support the antioxidant defense system, including decreased LDL oxidation.<sup>3-6\*</sup> These extracts may also promote healthy systolic function, likely due to the increased nitric oxide bioavailability associated with decreased oxidative stress.<sup>5,7,8</sup>\* Cranberry extract may also support cardiovascular function by promoting healthy lipid metabolism, while grape seed extract may support a healthy inflammatory balance.4-6\*

### Coenzyme Q<sub>10</sub>

Coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  is required for electron transfer in the mitochondrial respiratory chain, which produces energy necessary for cellular functions and muscle contractions.<sup>9,10</sup>\* As a result, its highest levels are found in the most metabolically active tissues, including the heart.<sup>9</sup> Coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  supplementation has been shown to promote cardiovascular health in adults, including support for endothelial function and contractility of the heart after exercise.<sup>11-14\*</sup> It also maintains antioxidant defense and promotes healthy expression of antioxidant enzymes, including catalase, superoxide dismutase and glutathione peroxidase.<sup>14-16\*</sup> Decreases in serum and tissue coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  are associated with aging and statin drug use, and research demonstrates that it is difficult to increase coenzyme  $Q_{10}$  levels from the diet alone.<sup>17\*</sup> Therefore, supplementation to increase coenzyme Q10 levels may be especially beneficial in these populations.<sup>17\*</sup>

#### Hawthorn

Hawthorn is a red fruit-bearing plant with white flowers that is native to the temperate regions of Europe, Asia and eastern North America.<sup>18</sup> The most potent parts of the plant include its leaves and flowers, which contain a variety of flavonoid compounds.<sup>18</sup> These flavonoids have strong antioxidant activity and may contribute to supporting cardiovascular health.<sup>18</sup>\* Research demonstrates that hawthorn promotes normal heart rhythms by mediating potassium channels in the heart, which stabilizes the length of the refractory period and action potential.<sup>18</sup>\* By regulating calcium levels in the cell, hawthorn may control the contractile force of heart muscles.<sup>18</sup>\* Hawthorn also promotes healthy blood flow by supporting nitric oxide production from endothelial cells.<sup>18\*</sup> In a metaanalysis that included 14 randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trials, hawthorn supplementation was found to significantly promote healthy cardiovascular function.<sup>19\*</sup>

#### Garlic

The main bioactive compound in garlic is allicin.<sup>20</sup> When broken down, this sulfur-containing compound is responsible for garlic's characteristic odor.<sup>20</sup> Clinical trials have demonstrated that garlic supports cardiovascular health by promoting healthy artery, platelet and endothelial cell function.<sup>21-24</sup>\* Garlic also supports the antioxidant defense system and decreases oxidative stress in both lipids and DNA.<sup>22-24\*</sup> Studies have also extensively researched the ability of garlic to mediate lipid metabolism, and clinical trials have found that garlic supports healthy cholesterol metabolism.<sup>25-29\*</sup>

### Magnesium

Magnesium is a cofactor for over 600 enzymes that mediate, in part, amino acid synthesis and glycolysis.<sup>30</sup>\* It is also a natural calcium channel blocker that may promote cardiovascular health by regulating cardiac excitability, vascular-smooth muscle and endothelial cells.<sup>31-33</sup>\* A metaanalysis of 16 clinical trials found that dietary and circulating magnesium levels are associated with heart and cardiovascular health.<sup>34\*</sup> Specifically, meta-analyses have reported that magnesium supplementation promotes healthy heart rhythms, systolic and diastolic function, and glucose metabolism.<sup>35-37</sup>\* Magnesium is also a cofactor for the enzyme creatine kinase, which generates ATP from phosphocreatine stored in muscle tissues during intense exercise (known as alactic anaerobic metabolism).<sup>38\*</sup> Supplementation with magnesium has been found to support muscle function associated with intense exercise by improving alactic anaerobic metabolism.<sup>38</sup>\* Similarly, a clinical trial reported that magnesium intake supported exercise performance, as measured by  $VO_2$ max, heart rate and left ventricular ejection fraction.35\*

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