



**Good Practice in Traditional Chinese Medicine Research in
the Post-genomic Era**

GP-TCM

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D4.9

**Report of the discussion group on criteria for evaluating data
suggestive of molecular mechanisms of action of CHM**

Document description	
Name of document	Report of the discussion group on criteria for evaluating data suggestive of molecular mechanisms of action of CHM
Abstract	The discussion group originally intended to carry out the evaluation on a clinical theme proposed by WP6. The approach was later modified from an in-depth evaluation of the disease-related mechanisms, towards a more general problematic approach centred on <i>in-vitro</i> plant evaluation of molecular mechanisms, including evaluation of multiple mechanisms of action and systems biology, without a therapeutic focus. This change has made D4.9 very similar to D4.14 (Report of the discussion group on the use of functional genomics techniques for <i>in-vitro</i> CHM research). The WP4 coordination group therefore decided to merge the two deliverables into one, to be delivered by the D4.14 deadline of month 24 (April 2011).
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1 REPORT OF THE DISCUSSION GROUP ON CRITERIA FOR EVALUATING DATA SUGGESTIVE OF MOLECULAR MECHANISMS OF ACTION OF CHM

1.1 Introduction

The discussion group on criteria for evaluating data suggestive of molecular mechanisms of action of CHM was formed during the kick-off and the follow-up meeting of WP4. This group is identical with the group that developed the online repository (D4.4 – the discussion group on the biological target oriented database).

The group had decided, at the outset, to orient the principal work by choosing defined clinical areas as it had been hoped that WP6 would indicate in order to concentrate a limited number of biological targets and molecular mechanisms of action. This issue was brought up at the meeting in Henley on Thames in July 2010, when all the work packages were present. However, at Henley, it was decided that the work of all WPs should be redirected towards a focus of an initial group of plants (D4.6). As a logical consequence, the discussion group in WP4 had to modify its approach to the molecular mechanism issue, from an in-depth evaluation of the disease-related mechanisms towards a more general problematic approach centred on *in-vitro* plant evaluation of molecular mechanisms. However this approach led to a change in the nature of the discussion, focussing not on disease areas but on approaches to the evaluation of multiple mechanisms of action and systems biology, without a therapeutic focus.

This change made D4.9 complementary to D4.14 (Report of the discussion group on the use of functional genomics techniques for *in-vitro* CHM research). The WP4 coordination group therefore decided to merge the two deliverables into one, to be delivered by the D4.14 deadline of month 24 (April 2011).

The deliverable D4.9 was originally planned to be delivered in month 18 (October 2010). However, due to the issues mentioned above, the WP4 coordination team has decided to submit the report for D4.9 together with D4.14 in month 24 and in the meantime continue to undertake the work.