

## The (November-December) Christmas 2013 Newsletter of The GP-TCM Research Association



*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Melbourne, Australia!*



### **Now** Leading News

**1. GP-TCM RA is now an Interested Party to HMPC/EMA.** On 28<sup>th</sup> October 2013, Prof. Dr. Werner Knöss, Chairman of the Committee on Herbal Medicinal Products (HMPC) at European Medicines Agency (EMA), wrote to GP-TCM RA President Prof. Dr. Rudolf Bauer and officially informed this important HMPC/EMA decision — **Warm congratulations!**

The 'Interested Parties to the HMPC' consist of several parties having an interest at European level in herbal (traditional) medicinal products, with whom the HMPC has established contacts as foreseen in the rules of procedure of the Committee. They were identified after the Committee invited in November 2004 any organisation (Association, Federation, Council, etc.) to express their willingness to be regarded as an interested party to the HMPC.

The Committee selected associations that had come forward against several criteria including legitimacy (organisation shall have statutes registered in one of the Member States of the EU), EU representativity (organisation shall be representative of member associations/members throughout the EU) and activities (a part of the organisation's activities shall include a specific interest in research, development, licensing and use of herbal/traditional medicinal products).

The Committee has been receiving regular contribution to its work from several of these interested parties primarily in the form of comments to documents released for public consultation, especially draft Community herbal monographs and Community list entries. They also respond to the calls for submission of scientific data and submit proposals for new monographs/list entries. Hearings with these interested parties are convened upon agreement by the HMPC when the need has arisen to discuss certain matters or for information purposes.

The list of the current Interested Parties to the HMPC:

[http://www.ema.europa.eu/docs/en\\_GB/document\\_library/Other/2009/12/WC500017899.pdf](http://www.ema.europa.eu/docs/en_GB/document_library/Other/2009/12/WC500017899.pdf)

### **2. Preparing for Horizon 2020: Draft Work Programmes**

The European Commission has started publishing drafts of some Horizon 2020 Work Programmes. These are now available on the official Horizon 2020 website. Some draft Work Programmes for Horizon 2020 have now been made available by the European Commission. To

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date, these include the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, ICT, Access to Risk Finance, the 'Climate Action, Environment, Resource Efficiency and Raw Materials' societal challenge and the European Research Council.

The current drafts give information on the likely topics or actions for funding and the planned calls for proposals. Some indicate budgets and deadlines. For each topic, there are three sub-headings, the "Specific Challenge", the "Scope" and the "Expected Impact". It is important to keep in mind that these are drafts and that changes can still be made before the adoption of the final work programmes and their publication. The Commission is publishing these drafts to allow potential applicants to familiarise themselves with the main lines of funding planned ahead of the launch of the first calls, which is expected for 11 December 2013. Calls will be published on the Commission's Research Participant Portal, a new version of which is supposed to be launched in early December. Further drafts of work programmes will be made available over the coming days and weeks, please monitor the official Horizon 2020 page.

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020/index\\_en.cfm?pg=h2020-documents](http://ec.europa.eu/research/horizon2020/index_en.cfm?pg=h2020-documents)



### **3. Horizon 2020 Participant Portal going live now!!**

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/opportunities/index.html>

The Commission Horizon 2020 Participant Portal is now live. The FP7 portal URL now instructs users to follow a new URL to the upgraded portal. Access to FP7 projects continues through the Horizon 2020 portal.

The Participant Portal is the point of entry for information about Horizon 2020, funding calls, partner searches and information about the types of funding instrument in Horizon 2020. It is also the mechanism through which applications will be submitted for calls under the programme, and through which grant signature and subsequent grant management will take place.

The portal is different in appearance to the FP7 portal and is easier to navigate. A key document is the Online Manual, accessible through most pages and providing useful information on applying for grants and on each stage of grant management.

Users should note that much of the portal is not yet complete - in particular, information on calls is not yet provided. The intention is that most of the site will be fully operational from 11 December and the launch of Horizon 2020, but some areas may continue as work in progress after this date as final details are resolved and can then be added to the portal.

Information continues to be available on the portal on FP7 - key documents for instance - and access to existing FP7 projects is unchanged by the upgrade of the participant portal.



### **4. President Rudolf Bauer's Report on Symposium on Traditional Chinese Medicines (Strasbourg, France. 14-15 Nov 2013)** <http://www.edqm.eu/en/proceedings-international-conference-83.html>

Symposium on Traditional Chinese Medicines has been held at EDQM Premises on 14th-15th November 2013. The symposium has been jointly organised by the EDQM and the State Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine of the People's Republic of China (SATCM) and its National Key Institute of TCM Quality Control (NKITCM). Key topics included:

- The regulatory situation of Traditional Chinese Medicines in China and in Europe, including a substantial contribution on the elaboration of the Traditional Chinese Medicines monographs in the Chinese Pharmacopoeia.
- The progress in research, especially in terms of identification using multiple methods such as DNA barcoding, HPLC and HPTLC fingerprinting.
- The current efforts to pursue evidence-based methods of quality control.

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- The rigorous methods currently being elaborated to control toxic compounds.
- The on-going work for understanding the chemical and pharmacological effects of Traditional Chinese Medicines processing.

The symposium was attended by 75 participants, including officials and experts from 18 countries, as well as representatives from European and national regulatory authorities, TCM importers, pharmacists and practitioners. The presentations will be published on the EDQM website. GP-TCM RA President Rudi Bauer and President-elect De-an Guo attended as session chairs, speakers and panelists. Two other BoD members also attended (Pierre Duez and Vivian Wong). A detailed report with ppts of the presentations has been published at the EDQM website.

§ Read the Press release on the TCM Symposium

[http://www.edqm.eu/site/joint\\_edqm\\_tcm\\_symposiumpdf-en-31279-2.html](http://www.edqm.eu/site/joint_edqm_tcm_symposiumpdf-en-31279-2.html)

§ Read the Proceedings of the Symposium

<http://www.edqm.eu/en/proceedings-international-conference-83.html>

### 5. President Rudolf Bauer's Report on the 2nd Conference of Partners of the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing (EIP AHA)

The European Commission (DG Communications Networks, Content and Technology and DG Health and Consumers) organized the **2nd Conference of Partners** of the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing on **25th November 2013** in the European Commission's premises (Charlemagne building) in Brussels. More than 600 participants were attending including national and regional authorities, health and social care professionals, industry, insurers and NGOs. Introductory speeches were given by Commissioners **Mrs. Neelie Kroes**, Vice President of the European Commission responsible for the Digital Agenda (represented by **Mr. Constantijn Van Oranje-Nassau**) and **Mr. Tonio Borg**, European Commissioner for Health.

The conference aimed to foster a high level policy debate about how to best **scale up innovation** within the care systems in response to the demographic challenge and how to create the associated opportunities for new **growth and jobs**.

A major contribution to this debate came from the evidence collected from the Reference Sites ([http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/pdf/active-healthy-ageing/rs\\_catalogue.pdf#view=fit&pagemode=none](http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/pdf/active-healthy-ageing/rs_catalogue.pdf#view=fit&pagemode=none)) and the first outcomes of six large scale actions ([http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/index\\_en.cfm?section=active-healthy-ageing&pg=commitment#action\\_plans](http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/index_en.cfm?section=active-healthy-ageing&pg=commitment#action_plans)) launched under this Partnership in November 2012. The detailed programme and additional information on the Conference is available on the website. ([http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/index\\_en.cfm?section=active-healthy-ageing&pg=partners-conference-2013](http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/index_en.cfm?section=active-healthy-ageing&pg=partners-conference-2013)).

In particular, 'Personalized health management', 'Prevention and early diagnosis of frailty and functional decline, both physical and cognitive, in older people', and 'Integrated care' may be related to GP-TCM RA interests.

### **Calls in Societal Challenge 1\_Health von HORIZON2020**

- PHC 1 – 2014 *Understanding health, ageing and disease: determinants, risk factors and pathways*
- PHC 5 – 2014 *Health promotion and disease prevention: translating 'omics' into stratified approaches*
- PHC 12 – 2014 *Clinical validation of biomarkers and/or diagnostic medical devices - SME instrument*
- PHC 13 – 2014 *New therapies for chronic non-communicable diseases*

The complete list with deadlines is available at [http://ec.europa.eu/research/health/index\\_en.html](http://ec.europa.eu/research/health/index_en.html)



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**6. Secretary-General Tai-Ping Fan's academic visits to RMIT University, University of Melbourne, Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU), Macau University of Science & Technology (MUST), Guangzhou Medical University (GZMU, 广州医科大学) and Guangzhou University of Chinese Medicine (GZUCM, 广州中医药大学) during 6-24 December 2013.** Taking up his 2013 RMIT Foundation International Visiting Fellowship, Tai-Ping made academic visits to 6 universities in Australia, Hong Kong, Macau and China. In addition to sharing his latest research data, he actively promoted the GP-TCM RA. As a result of his meetings with Deputy Vice-Chancellor David Adams of RMIT University and Director Charlie Xue of WHO Collaborating Centre for Traditional Medicine, Dean LU Aiping 吕爱平 of HKBU School of Chinese Medicine, Rector LIU Liang 刘良 of MUST, President WANG Xinhua 王新华 of GZMU and President WANG Sheng Liang 王省良 of GZUCM, it is anticipated that these 5 universities will join our Association as corporate members, and bring in a significant number of ordinary and student members.

**7. Vice-President Qihe Xu's UK Research Office alerts:**

- [2013-12-11 - Horizon 2020: First Calls Published](#)
- [2013-12-11 - IMI 11th Call for Proposals](#)

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### 8. More information on EIP-AHA 2<sup>nd</sup> Conference of Partners – Scaling Up for Healthy Growth. 25-26 November 2013, Brussels

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/index\\_en.cfm?section=active-healthy-ageing&pg=partners-conference-2013](http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/index_en.cfm?section=active-healthy-ageing&pg=partners-conference-2013)

A programme page for video extracts and powerpoint presentations are available. You can also access the whole film of the conference.

- [http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/index\\_en.cfm?section=active-healthy-ageing&pg=partners-conference-2013-programme](http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/index_en.cfm?section=active-healthy-ageing&pg=partners-conference-2013-programme)
- <https://scic.ec.europa.eu/streaming/index.php?es=2&sessionno=43cf3ae60279360eab2d678461a565c3>

On Monday 25 November, over 600 enthusiastic participants and other stakeholders of the Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing gathered in Brussels for the Second Conference of Partners. They engaged in debates on the Innovation Partnership and its contribution to economic growth and job creation, and on scaling up its activities. Other sessions were devoted to the Action Groups' first years' results and next steps; and to horizontal issues.

In his opening address, Health Commissioner Tonio Borg set the tone: "Europe's health systems need in-depth reforms now, if we want our citizens to benefit from high quality, efficient and sustainable health systems in the future." Constantijn van Oranje-Nassau, Head of Cabinet of Neelie Kroes (who sent her regrets for not being able to attend), proposed reinvesting savings and efficiencies in ICT-driven innovation for Health and Social care.

In the panel session dedicated to social and economic growth and employment, examples of impact 'on the ground' of innovative health initiatives were provided, in particular through the Andalusian example where 5000 jobs have been created in the field of telemedicine. Panelists pleaded also for putting people in the center of health policies and effective use of resources. The French silver economy was illustrated as a strategy to boost supply and demand in products and services for ageing well.

During the panel session on scaling up, information was provided on the coherence between the EIP and other Commission initiatives, from the H2020 research and Development programme till the new Active and Assisted Living Joint Programme. Special attention was given to the ERDF and other forms of regional funding, and about the smart-specialization strategies that regions need to develop now to become eligible.

Then the discussion moved to the Action Groups' preliminary achievements (a year after the adoption of their action plans), mostly centered on the analysis and sharing of good practices, mutual learning; dissemination and awareness raising, and cooperation among partners. For the upcoming year the delivery targets clearly indicate large scale deployment as the next step, including the development of a framework for organizational models, implementation and scaling up, and impact evaluation.

The Conference continued the next day with a more operational focus: with Action Group workshops on the monitoring framework and on horizontal issues such as the repository of good practices (under construction), and a very animated twinning event with Reference Sites and other interested regions. These two intense days set a sound basis for the next EIP-AHA year.

#### Online publications and other materials

Some of the accumulated results and insights were presented during the conference; they are all downloadable now. Great material for all those who want to be inspired or have ambitions to innovate health and care according to the EIP recipe:

- Action Groups. First Year Achievements: offers an overview of the objectives and

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preliminary achievements

- The [How To Guide for Reference Sites](#): Valuable information is provided on how the Reference Sites have created their successes, what they learned along the way, and on what elements of their approach could be transferred or copied by others.
- A short overview of inventories of good practices, created by the Action Groups was provided on paper, while the [complete versions](#) can now be found online.

Finally, the [conference programme page](#) offers video extracts and PowerPoint presentations. Also the whole conference [video](#) is available on line.

### LATEST NEWS

[Active ageing strategy launched in Malta | 04-12-2013](#)

[Draft work programme 2014-2015 "Health, demographic change and wellbeing" now public | 21-11-2013](#)

[Member States take major step in eHealth cooperation to improve care for patients across EU borders | 20-11-2013](#)

[Towards a Personal Interactive Assistant for Independent Living and Active Ageing | 18-11-2013](#)

### OUR NEW MEMBERS

[Adriana AGRIMI](#) | Puglia Region's Department Industrial Research and Innovation, Bari, Puglia (Italy)

[Sofía MORENO-PÉREZ](#) | Consultant in Privacy, ethics and Impact assessment, COLMENAR VIEJO, Madrid (Spain)

[Minna KAMULA](#) | South Ostrobothnia Health Technology Development Centre (EPTEK), Seinäjoki, South Ostrobothnia (Finland)

[Armengol TORRES](#) | Technology Consultancy, Barcelona (Spain)

[José Luis GARCIA PACHECO](#) | Instituto de Salud Carlos III (Institute of Health Carlos III, ISCIII), Madrid (Spain)

### LATEST INITIATIVES

[Consortium on Health and Ageing: Network of Cohorts in Europe and the United States - CHANCES](#) | posted by Antonia TRICHOPOULOU

[GerontoGaming](#) | posted by Manouchehr SHAMSRIZI

### UPCOMING EVENTS NOT TO BE MISSED

From 08-12-2013 to 11-12-2013 | [XX World Congress of Parkinson's Disease and Related Disorders](#)

From 12-12-2013 to 13-12-2013 | [INNO4AGEING 2013](#)

16-01-2014 | [ICT support for Active and Healthy Ageing: Enablers for Success \(E4S\)](#)

19-02-2014 to 20-02-2014 | [Interoperability Days: Managing AAL Complexity through Support for Interoperability \(MACSI\)](#)

### LATEST DOCUMENTS

[Assessing the needs of regions, cities and towns regarding a European initiative supporting age-friendly environments](#) | D4 Action Group on Age friendly buildings, cities and environments

[Minutes of the D4 Action Group Meeting n5, 3rd October 2013](#) | D4 Action Group on Age friendly buildings, cities and environments

[Minutes of the 5th A1 Action Group meeting, 8th October 2013](#) | A1 Action Group on Prescription and adherence to treatment

[CPME Newsletter- 10th November 2013- Special edition](#) | Standing Committee of European Doctors

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iACToR (International Association of CyberPsychology, Training, & Rehabilitation) [Call for Papers for the 19th Annual CyberPsychology, CyberTherapy & Social Networking Conference \(CYPSY19\) June 2014](#)

### **REGISTER WITH THE MARKETPLACE OF THE EIP**

By registering as a member, the EIP on AHA website becomes a toolkit for your full immersion into EIP on AHA activities. This platform for cooperation can help you develop innovative ideas and projects within the EIP on AHA.

In addition to reading discussions on the forum, searching for information, and searching for events, registered members can:

Find partners for an initiative, find an initiative to participate in, provide and search for information, get in touch with stakeholders from all over Europe, participate in discussions in the forums, promote events and documents, share content, find out more about existing Action Group work

These activities can also help you to develop ideas and initiatives in order to apply for and participate in the work of the Action Groups.

### **REGISTER NOW!!**

### **9. EU and China Strengthen Co-operation in Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology Research (Brussels, 21 November 2013)**

Following the first meeting of the EU-China Innovation Co-operation Dialogue that took place in Beijing last week, the European Commission and the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) have signed a Letter of Intent on Research and Innovation Co-operation in Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology, thus launching the first EU-China flagship initiative.

The Letter of Intent follows the 2012 EU-China Cooperation Plan for Agriculture and Rural Development, which already identified agricultural research as a key area for future co-operation, and constitutes a basis for a strategic long-term partnership within the overall context of the Scientific & Technological Cooperation Agreement.

The newly signed document is expected to help the EU and China to implement joint and coordinated research initiatives and support joint collaborative research projects under their respective multiannual programmes for Research and Innovation – Horizon 2020 and ASTIP. Both actors also plan to use the new agreement to strengthen co-operation in tackling the common challenges of global food security, finding a sustainable model of agriculture, developing a sound bio-economy and eventually improving mutual trade relations.

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/index.cfm?pg=newsalert&year=2013&na=na-211113>

[http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/china/press\\_corner/all\\_news/news/2013/20131108\\_en.htm](http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/china/press_corner/all_news/news/2013/20131108_en.htm)

### **10. Another perspective on the 1st EU-China Innovation Cooperation Dialogue - Joint Press Statement (27/11/2013)**

Following the Joint Declaration on the European Union – China Innovation Cooperation Dialogue signed by EU Commissioner Máire Geoghegan-Quinn and Chinese Minister of Science and Technology Wan Gang on the occasion of the 15<sup>th</sup> EU-China Summit on 20 September 2012, the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the EU-China Innovation Cooperation Dialogue took place in Beijing on 21 November 2013.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the EU-China Innovation Cooperation Dialogue was opened by EU Commissioner for Regional Policy Johannes Hahn and by the Chinese Minister of Science and Technology Wan Gang and co-chaired by Mr. Rudolf Strohmeier, Deputy Director General for Research and Innovation of the European Commission on the EU side and by Mr. Zhang Laiwu,



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Vice Minister of Science and Technology on the China side. The meeting saw the participation of high level EU and Chinese government representatives and stakeholders in the innovation area.

As illustrated by the EU Policy towards building an Innovation Union and the Chinese policy towards innovation driven development, the two sides reconfirmed their attachment of the greatest importance on innovation as a means of tackling social challenges and promoting sustainable growth. The two sides exchanged views on their respective innovation policies and discussed ways to enhance cooperation on research and innovation.

The discussion led to the following shared conclusions:

The two sides welcomed the launch of a new flagship initiative on Food, Agriculture and Biotechnology. This new initiative will ensure concrete, substantial and balanced joint research and innovation cooperation activities on selected priorities of common interest to be supported.

The two sides welcomed progress made on developing the Research and Innovation pillar of the EU-China Sustainable Urbanisation Partnership. Both sides have placed innovation at the core of their respective strategies to address the challenges that urbanisation creates. Topics of common interest in areas such as city planning, green transport, clean technology and sustainable energy are to be supported.

In respect of industrial innovation, substantial progress has been achieved in developing a framework for cooperation to promote closer collaboration in mutual economic and strategic interest between EU and Chinese industrial clusters of businesses, researchers and innovators.

The two sides welcomed the prospect of developing a joint initiative on aviation. In consultation with EU and Chinese industry, stakeholders' priorities of common interest are being identified and will result in joint EU-China calls for collaborative research and innovation projects.

Cooperation involving industry and research institutes on the information and communication technology will be enhanced through existing and further mechanisms. Key topics such as future telecommunications (5G), smart cities and internet of things will be explored.

The two sides have a shared interest in promoting predictable, transparent and effective framework conditions related to innovation. The two sides should continue to promote a level playing field with respect to research and innovation both in Europe and in China, and to work on lowering barriers to innovation and balanced research cooperation.

To pursue further the objectives of the Innovation Cooperation Dialogue as outlined in the Joint Declaration of 20 September 2012, the two sides agreed to set up an Expert Task Force on Innovation Cooperation to identify and promote successful practices in the EU and in China, and to report on the EU-China Joint S&T Steering Committee Meeting and the next Innovation Cooperation Dialogue.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Innovation Cooperation Dialogue will take place in Europe in 2014.

### Health Update from China – October 2013 (excerpts)

#### 1. New policies open up health service sector

- China aims to increase the gross value of its health service sector to over RMB 8 trillion (£ 813 million) by 2020. Priorities include medical services, medical care for the elderly, health management, health insurance, professional training and supporting sectors related to pharmaceuticals, medical equipment and healthcare facilities. Key measures are:
- In the newly opened Free Trade Zone in Shanghai, healthcare is among the six areas of focus. Wholly foreign owned medical institutions and health-care insurance companies are allowed to operate there (unlike in other parts of China).



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### **2. Vice Premier emphasises health care for elderly**

- Vice Premier Liu Yandong called for efforts to develop health care for the elderly on 13 October, China's first official Elderly People's Day. Liu said non-government sectors should be encouraged to participate in elderly care, while grassroots medical institutions should play a more active role in community care and the management of chronic diseases.
- China is placing new emphasis on developing its elderly care sector in the face of a rapidly ageing population. By 2020, China will have 230 million people over the age of 60, with the total reaching 400 million, or 27.8% of the population, by 2050.

### **3. China's dementia challenge**

- 93% of dementia cases in Chinese people aged 60 and over are undetected, according to the British Journal of Psychiatry.
- Only 14% of early dementia patients and 33% of advanced dementia patients in China seek medical treatment, according to the Shanghai Medical Association. There is a misconception that early symptoms of dementia, such as loss of memory, are a normal part of ageing.

### **4. One in five adults suffers from high blood pressure**

- A total of 266 million Chinese people suffer from high blood pressure, according to the Chinese Centre for Disease Control and Prevention. About 24% of people aged 15 and over have the condition.
- 40% of patients are not aware of their condition and only about 25% of patients receive treatment. The increased incidence of high blood pressure has been caused by changes in lifestyle and diet.

### **5. China to monitor the impact of air pollution on health**

- A national network to monitor the impact of air pollution on health will be set up by the National Health and Family Planning Commission.
- The network will gather data on the composition of PM2.5, airborne particles measuring less than 2.5 microns in diameter, in different regions and density changes in the main air pollutants. This will provide data for analysis of the long-term impact of these particles on health.
- The World Health Organisation officially classified air pollution as a carcinogen this month.

### **6. Emerging pharmaceutical market in China:**

- China's pharmaceutical market has grown annually at a rapid rate of 5% for the past five years, reaching RMB 600 billion (£61.2 billion) in 2012, according to new analysis from McKinsey. The market is likely to be the second-largest healthcare market in the world in 2020, reaching RMB 1.9 trillion (£194 billion).
- On average, sales in China by the top 10 multinational pharmaceutical firms accounted for 3.8% of their global business in 2012, up from 3% the previous year.

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### **NEW** Reports from GP-TCM RA Members:

#### **1. Cardiff University formed joint institute with Yiling, a GP-TCM RA Corporate Member:**



On 20<sup>th</sup> October 2013, Professor Colin Riordan, President and Vice-Chancellor of Cardiff University, signed an Agreement with Professor and Academician Yiling Wu, Chairman of Yiling Medical Research Institute, to form the Cardiff University-Yiling Group Joint Medical Research Centre in order to jointly develop and advance new treatment for cancer, with a main focus on Chinese Medicine. Cardiff University has been collaborating with Yiling Group for the past two years initially trying to investigate the potential mechanism(s) of some of the anti-cancer TCMs. The team at Cardiff, lead by Professor Wen G Jiang of School of Medicine and team at Yiling have discovered some novel mechanisms underlying the action of YangZheng XiaoJi, one of the SFDA approved medicine in China and have reported the role of FAK pathway in the anti-angiogenesis action of the medicine. The joint studies have gone on to demonstrate other effects on cancer cells. The newly formed Joint Centre, one of the few in the world, will be co-hosted in Cardiff and in China and focus initially on cancer, but extend to other areas in medicine. The Joint Centre will also form a base for training of medics and scientists and international conferences.

For more information about this news in English and Chinese and the collaborating partners Yiling Pharma and Prof. Jiang's team in Cardiff, please visit:

<http://www.dzhnews.com/detail/healthcare/101/200000272134>

<http://news.sciencenet.cn/htmlnews/2013/10/284147.shtm>

<http://www.gp-tcm.org/about/corporate-member-showcase/>

<http://medicine.cf.ac.uk/person/prof-wen-guo-jiang/>

#### **2. The 10<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the International Society for the Study of Xenobiotics (ISSX) was held on 30.9.-4.10.2013 in Toronto, Canada.**



Speakers with Dr Changxiao Liu (centre) from left: Dr Li, Dr Lin, Dr Yang, Dr Pelkonen

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The conference gathered close to 1500 participants. Parallel Session 5 on October 1, *Metabolism, Pharmacokinetics and Interactions of Traditional Medicines and Natural Products* was co-chaired by Dr. Chuan Li (Professor and Principal Investigator at Shanghai Institute of *Materia Medica*, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China) and Dr. Ge Lin (Professor at School of Biomedical Sciences, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong). The session consisted of four presentations (see the photograph on the speakers, courtesy of Prof. Yang). Dr. Li's title was '*How to do ADME/PK studies of herbal medicines and what we can learn from them*' and he started the session by presenting an overview on absorption, disposition, and pharmacokinetics of herbal medicines and describing some novel aspects of the analytical complexities of the products. Dr. Lin's title was '*Assessment and management of adverse effects and hepatotoxicity associated with the metabolism of herbal products*' and she illustrated the importance of elucidating mechanism of hepatotoxic action of pyrrolizidine alkaloids and how these studies help to produce novel biomarkers for the exposure and effect. Dr. Ling Yang (Professor of Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics, the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Dalian, China) presented a talk on '*Interactions between Medicinal Phytochemicals and Drug Metabolism Enzymes (Phase I and Phase II)*', in which he reported identification of several novel specific substrates and selective inhibitors and the establishment of a new method of the enzymatic assignment. Dr. Olavi Pelkonen (Professor emeritus at University of Oulu, Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Finland) talked about '*Progress and Promise of Chinese Herbal Medicines: lessons from the first EU-China Framework Programme Project GP-TCM*' (GP-TCM stands for Good Practice in Traditional Chinese Medicine Research in the Post-genomic Era). He described the contents and advances of the 1<sup>st</sup> EU-funded Coordination Action consortium (~200 scientists from 24 countries and >100 institutions) dedicated to TCM research and running 2010-2012 and specifically focused on the ADMET studies. At the Conference, Olavi Pelkonen was also an organiser and co-chair of a short course '*Strategies and Techniques for Predicting Human Drug Metabolism and Drug-Drug Interactions*'.

**3. Vice-President PENG Cheng of Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine (CDUTCM) visits University of Cambridge and King's College London (4-9 December 2013).** Accompanied by Prof. FU Chaomei (Vice Dean of CDUTCM School of Pharmacy) and Ms Angel Hanbing Wang, Vice-President Peng had discussions with Department Heads of Pharmacology, Biochemistry and Chemistry at Cambridge University exploring university-wide collaborative in TCM Innovation Alliance Project. This was followed by an official visit to King's College London, where formal agreement has been established. More details will follow in the next Newsletter.



Vice-President Peng (R) of Chengdu University of TCM and Vice Dean FU (L) of School of Pharmacy visit Cambridge



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**NEW Meeting Invitations:**

1. The 3<sup>rd</sup> GP-TCM RA Annual Meeting & the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of TCM Analysis Society of WFCMS to be held in Nanjing, China on 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> July 2014. Please firmly book these dates in your diary. More details will follow.



Good Practice in  
Traditional Chinese  
Medicine Research  
Association



TCM Pharmaceutical  
Analysis Specialty  
Committee of the World  
Federation of Chinese  
Medicine Societies



State Key Laboratory of  
Natural Medicines (China  
Pharmaceutical University)



National Engineering  
Laboratory for TCM  
Standardization Technology

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of GP-TCM Research Association & 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of TCM Analysis Society of WFCMS

July 18-20, 2014,  
Nanjing, Jiangsu, China

### Main Scientific Topics:

Quality control and standardization, pharmacology, toxicology, clinical studies, regulatory affairs, acupuncture and meridian, *in-vivo* studies, chemistry, resources, effective components, internationalization.

### Organizing Committee:

- Chairman:  
Prof. De-An Guo; Prof. Ping Li
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(1<sup>ST</sup> ANNOUNCEMENT)



## The (November-December) Christmas 2013 Newsletter of The GP-TCM Research Association



### **NEW Recommended Readings:**

#### **1. Use of '-omics' technologies in the development of personalised medicine.**

On 6<sup>th</sup> November 2013, the European Commission has published a report detailing the progress made in the field of personalised medicine. To date, over EUR 1 billion of FP7 funding has been committed for the development of personalised medicine. Funding will continue under Horizon 2020. The report focuses on three main areas:

- The potential for, and issues with, the use of '-omics' technologies in personalised medicine, and the related EU research funding;
- Recent developments in EU legislation for placing medicinal products and devices on the market, and;
- Factors affecting the uptake of personalised medicine in health care systems.

[http://ec.europa.eu/health/files/latest\\_news/2013-10\\_personalised\\_medicine\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/health/files/latest_news/2013-10_personalised_medicine_en.pdf)

#### **2. Circular RNA “sponges” mop up microRNAs (*Nature Feb. 2013*):**

<http://www.nature.com/news/circular-rnas-throw-genetics-for-a-loop-1.12513>

<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v495/n7441/full/nature11928.html>

<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v495/n7441/full/nature11993.html>

**3. Ichikawa T. Current Situation of Kampo Medicine in Japan.** JMAJ 2013; 56(2):112-114. The author Tomoaki Ichikawa is President of the Japan Society for Oriental Medicine.

[http://www.med.or.jp/english/journal/pdf/2013\\_02/112\\_114.pdf](http://www.med.or.jp/english/journal/pdf/2013_02/112_114.pdf)

#### **4. A Norwegian survey on herbal usage:**

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/1472-6882/13/295>

#### **5. Uptake of the traditional use registration scheme and implementation of the provisions of Directive 2004/24/EC in EU Member States**

[http://www.ema.europa.eu/docs/en\\_GB/document\\_library/Report/2011/05/WC500106706.pdf](http://www.ema.europa.eu/docs/en_GB/document_library/Report/2011/05/WC500106706.pdf)

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