



Good Practice in Traditional Chinese Medicine Research Association 中医药规范研究学会



November-December 2023 Newsletter

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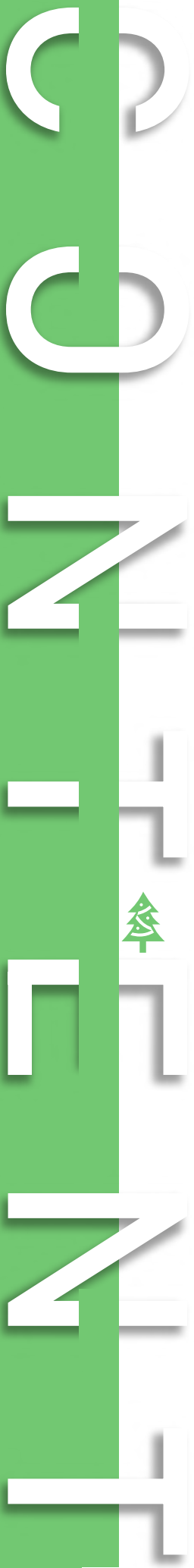
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New members of GP-TCM RA (November-December 2023)

Ordinary Members

Mee-Hyun Lee	Dongshin University, Republic of Korea
Ciro Isidoro	University of Piemonte Orientale, Italy

Student Members

Lara Friedrich	Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz, Germany
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Current Corporate Members

Dalian Fusheng Natural Medicine Development Co. Ltd., China	 大连富生天然药物开发有限公司 DALIAN FUSHENG NATURAL MEDICINE DEVELOPMENT CO., LTD
Hutchison Whampoa Guangzhou Baiyunshan Chinese Medicine Co. Ltd., China	 广州白云山和记黄埔中药有限公司
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PuraPharm International (H.K.) Ltd., Hong Kong SAR, China	 PuraPharm
Shanghai Hutchison Pharmaceuticals, China	 Shanghai Hutchison Pharmaceuticals 上海和黄药业

Current Institutional Members

Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, China	
China Medical University, Taichung, Taiwan (Department of Chinese Pharmaceutical Sciences and Chinese Medicine Resources)	
Heilongjiang University of Chinese Medicine, China	
Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong SAR, China (School of Chinese Medicine)	 香港浸會大學 HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY
Institute of Chinese Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR, China	 中醫藥研究所 Institute of Chinese Medicine
Shaanxi University of Technology	
Zhejiang Chinese Medical University, China (School of Pharmaceutical Sciences)	
Zhengzhou University of Industrial Technology, China	

i Marijuana Use Tied to Heart Failure, MI, Stroke

News > Medscape Medical News > Conference News > AHA 2023

Medscape

Marijuana Use Tied to Heart Failure, MI, Stroke

Marlene Busko
November 09, 2023

Daily marijuana use was associated with a 34% increased risk for heart failure within 4 years compared with nonuse, in new observational research.

In a separate study, cannabis use disorder (CUD) was linked with a 20% increased risk for major adverse cardiac and cerebral events (MACCEs) during hospitalization in older patients with cardiovascular risk who were tobacco nonsmokers.

The studies will be presented on November 13 at the upcoming American Heart Association (AHA) 2023 Scientific Sessions.

News and photo adapted from link below: <https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/998288?ecd=a2a&form=fpf>

ii Published in Science Advances, Network medicine framework reveals generic herb-symptom effectiveness of Traditional Chinese Medicine.

中医药重要突破！ Science 子刊：首次使用现代科学，解释中医的治疗原理

原创 Swagpp 梅斯医学 2023-11-11 07:50 发表于上海

如果说谈历史缺乏实感，那就看看近现代的中医药发展。

最“脍炙人口”的莫过于 2015 年诺贝尔生理学或医学奖授予了中国女药学家屠呦呦，以及另外两名科学家。其中，屠呦呦为青蒿素的重要发现者，该奖项以表彰她对疟疾治疗所做的贡献。

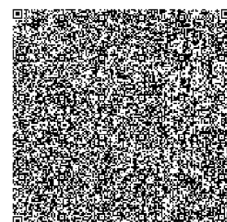
而在新冠肆虐的日子里，中医药抗疫方案“响彻”全球，为全球疫情防控贡献了中国智慧，将中国中医药再一次推向了国际视野。

然而，在理解中医药的机理根源方面一直存在着两大挑战，造就了其“难被认可”的局面：

- i) 中医经典理论缺乏科学依据，阻碍了从现代生物医学角度对中医的理解；
- ii) 中草药化学成分的复杂性以及化学物质的治疗蛋白靶点往往是未知的，因此采用传统的“蛮力攻击”来筛选中草药 / 化学物质的方法并不可行。

近日，来自中国和美国多校联合的研究团队建立了**网络医学框架**，揭示了中医的治疗系统原理，即**疾病症状与中草药靶点在人类蛋白质相互作用网络上的拓扑关系**。这项研究或成为“破局”的开始——让传统中医 (Traditional Chinese Medicine, TCM) 不再是“神话”，通过真实世界临床数据验证，首次建立了解释中药治疗原理的科学理论。

News and photo adapted from link below:



TCM research team established BATMAN-TCM 2.0 database for known and predicted interactions between traditional Chinese medicine ingredients and target proteins

NAR | 中药现代化的蝙蝠侠 (BATMAN-TCM) : 李栋 / 刘中扬团队建立升级版中药成分 - 人体靶标蛋白相互作用网络

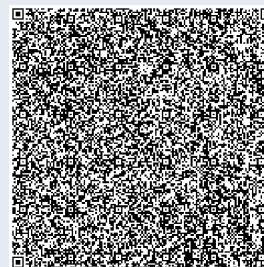
BioArtMED 2023-11-14 14:31 发表于四川

传统中医药 (TCM) 作为具有数千年临床实践历史的医学体系, 在近几十年来在全球范围内得到越来越多的认可和应用。TCM 已成为新药开发的重要自然模板库。传统中药的活性成分已成功应用于治疗复杂疾病的创新药物开发, 例如麻黄碱治疗哮喘和青蒿素治疗疟疾 (J. Am. Pharm. Assoc.2003, 52:406; Nat. Med. 2011, 17:1217.)。尽管 TCM 具有重要的治疗价值, 但在分子水平和系统角度上理解 TCM 药理学机制仍面临巨大挑战, 这严重阻碍了 TCM 的现代化进程。研究 TCM 成分与靶蛋白的相互作用对于阐明 TCM 的分子机制以及筛选具有治疗潜力的生物活性成分至关重要。

2016 年, 国家蛋白质科学中心 (北京) 联合北京中医药大学共同推出了 BATMAN-TCM (Sci Rep.2016, 4:996), 一个专为 TCM 药理研究而设计的中药成分靶蛋白相互作用 (TTI) 数据库 (<http://bionet.ncpsb.org.cn/batman-tcm/>)。BATMAN-TCM 1.0 自推出以来受到了学界的广泛关注, 已有超过 640 次引用和 400,000 次访问, 为 TCM 研究领域做出了贡献。但数据库有限的 TTI 覆盖范围和单一的检索功能并不能满足用户在药物研发领域的需求。根据对 PubMed (2016-2023) 中约 10,000 篇与中医药相关文章的调查, 天然成分及其靶标的研究呈爆炸性增长。此外, 基于组学数据中的疾病标志基因, 筛选活性中药成分已成为一个重要的研究方向, 例如通过基因表达谱鉴定了姜黄素用于急性心肌梗死的治疗 (Front Genet.2022, 13:886860.)。为了满足药物研发领域的需求, 该团队近期对 BATMAN-TCM 网站进行了升级, 显著增加了 TTI 网络的覆盖范围, 目前已有 17,068 个已知 TTI (增长 62.3 倍) 和 2,319,272 个高置信度预测 TTI (增长 3.23 倍)。近日, 该数据库 *BATMAN-TCM 2.0: an enhanced integrative database for known and predicted linkages between traditional Chinese medicine ingredients and target proteins* 在 *Nucleic Acids Research* 期刊在线发表。



News and photo adapted from link below:



iv Efficacy of Acupuncture for Chronic Spontaneous Urticaria published in high impact factor journal, (Annals of Internal Medicine, Impact factor: 39.2)

IF 39.2，顶刊《内科学年鉴》发表针灸学科研究成果：针刺治疗慢性自发性荨麻疹临床随机对照试验取得历史性突破！

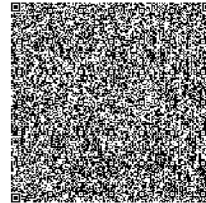
原创 Frontiers-CMCR 中医药临床研究前沿 2023-11-14 22:42 发表于英国

总所周知，**疼痛类疾病是针灸治疗的优势病种**，非疼痛类的慢性荨麻疹是皮肤科的常见疾病，药物治疗存在较大局限性，针灸治疗该病历史悠久、疗效独特，临床医生常常使用针灸干预来改善患者症状。

而针刺治疗慢性荨麻疹国内外一直缺乏高质量的临床研究证据支撑，限制了针灸疗法在非疼痛类疾病中的推广使用，**该研究成果极大的拓展了针灸治疗非疼痛类疾病的优势病种范畴，拓宽了临床应用范围，具有十分重要的学术价值和临床意义。**

本研究采用规范严格的随机对照试验设计，将 330 例慢性荨麻疹患者随机分为针刺组、假针刺组和等待治疗组。针刺组及假针刺组患者接受为期 4 周共 16 次的干预治疗，每位患者均在治疗后继续随访 4 周。**研究结果发现，针刺组比假针刺组和等待治疗组能更为显著的减少 UAS7 得分（UAS7 得分越高，荨麻疹症状越重）。**尽管针刺单一疗法的症状改善值离最小临床差异值（按照荨麻疹治疗的公认有效药物奥马珠单抗的临床效应值计算）仍有差距，但是为针灸疗法具有特异性效应提供了可靠的临床证据，而干预措施是否具有特异性效应是进入指南推荐的必备条件。

News and photo adapted from link below:

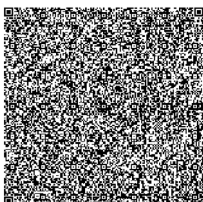


v Artificial intelligence for natural product drug discovery published in Nature Reviews Drug Discovery

Nat. Rev. Drug Discov. | 人工智能在天然产物药物发现领域的应用

DrugAI DrugAI 2023-11-19 17:44 发表于韩国

News and photo adapted from link below:



今天为大家介绍的是来自 Gerard J. P. van Westen, Anna K. H. Hirsch, Roger G. Linington, Serina L. Robinson 和 Marnix H. Medema 团队的一篇药物发现综述。计算组学技术的发展为我们提供了新的方法工具，用以挖掘天然产物的隐藏多样性，为药物发现提供新的可能性。与此同时，人工智能方法，如机器学习，也在计算药物设计领域取得了令人兴奋的发展，促进了生物活性预测和针对感兴趣的分子靶标的从头药物设计。

vi International Communication and Exchange Conference on Traditional Chinese Medicine Culture (2023) held in Beijing

2023 中医药文化国际传播交流会举办

中国外文局 2023-12-20 22:11 发表于北京



▲活动现场。

12月20日，2023中医药文化国际传播交流会在京举办。本次活动以“文明交流互鉴推动中医药传承创新发展”为主题，由中国外文局、国家中医药管理局指导，中国外文局国际传播发展中心、中华中医药学会主办，中国外文局文化传播中心、中外文国际传播发展（北京）有限公司承办。

News and photo adapted from link below: https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/iXLRolOhv_XZGyUgAyOryg

vi International clinical practice guideline on the use of traditional Chinese medicine for ulcerative colitis by Board of Specialty Committee of Digestive System Disease of World Federation of Chinese Medicine Societies (2023)

全球首个溃疡性结肠炎中医国际临床应用指南发布 引领国际中医治疗新篇章！

世中联消化委员会在张声生会长、赵鲁卿秘书长的带领下顺利完成了溃疡性结肠炎的中医诊疗国际标准并于2023年12月19日在Wiley出版社旗下的著名杂志Phytotherapy Research上发表。

溃疡性结肠炎 (Ulcerative Colitis, UC) 是世界卫生组织公认的消化系统重大疑难病，近年来随着生活方式的改变和诊断水平提高，本病已经发展成为一种全球性疾病，发病率急剧升高。目前UC的病因及发病机制尚未完全阐明，临床西药治疗存在诸多瓶颈，且长期维持用药耗费大量的医疗资源。UC的中医药治疗是中国的特色和优势，为患者提供了更多的有效选择。

近日，世界中医药学会联合会消化病专业委员会，首都医科大学附属北京中医医院消化中心张声生、赵鲁卿教授团队牵头制定的《International clinical practice guideline on the use of traditional Chinese medicine for ulcerative colitis by Board of Specialty Committee of Digestive System Disease of World Federation of Chinese Medicine Societies (2023)》在国际知名杂志《Phytotherapy Research》(Q1区, IF=7.2)上发表。该指南为全球首个溃疡性结肠炎中医国际临床应用指南。

News and photo adapted from link below: <https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/ex3cLfDfTyD3kjeZV-g4Aw>



i The 11th World Integrative Medicine Congress in Hangzhou



On 30 November to 4 December, The 11th World Integrative Medicine Congress took place in Hangzhou, China. Several GP-TCM RA members attended including Thomas Efferth, Michael Heinrich, De-an Guo, George He, Merlin Wilcox and others. In the keynote report session, Prof. Rudolf Bauer gave a keynote lecture on "Progress in the elaboration of monographs for quality control of Chinese herbs in the European Pharmacopoeia" and chaired a subsequent session. While Dr. Merlin Wilcox also gave a keynote lecture on "How could TCM contributed to antibiotic stewardship and primary care. In addition, Dr. Michael Heinrich and Prof. Thomas Efferth also gave lectures in the Pharmacy and Interdisciplinary Session.



Information and photo provided by Prof. Rudolf Bauer.
Activity website: <http://wimco2023.com/weben/index.asp>



Artificial intelligence for natural product drug discovery

nature reviews drug discovery

Journal: *Nature Reviews Drug Discovery*

Detail:

Nat Rev Drug Discov 22, 895–916 (2023)

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41573-023-00774-7>

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41573-023-00774-7?utm>

nature reviews drug discovery

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41573-023-00774-7>

Review article

Check for updates

Artificial intelligence for natural product drug discovery

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Abstract

Developments in computational omics technologies have provided new means to access the hidden diversity of natural products, unearthing new potential for drug discovery. In parallel, artificial intelligence approaches such as machine learning have led to exciting developments in the computational drug design field, facilitating biological activity prediction and de novo drug design for molecular targets of interest. Here, we describe current and future synergies between these developments to effectively identify drug candidates from the plethora of molecules produced by nature. We also discuss how to address key challenges in realizing the potential of these synergies, such as the need for high-quality datasets to train deep learning algorithms and appropriate strategies for algorithm validation.

Sections

Introduction

Uses of AI in natural product research

Data sources and data standardization

Conclusions and outlook

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895



Network medicine framework reveals generic herb-symptom effectiveness of traditional Chinese medicine.

Gan X, Shu Z, Wang X, Yan D, Li J, Ofaim S, Albert R, Li X, Liu B, Zhou X, Barabási AL.

Detail:

Journal: *Science Advances*

Sci Adv. 2023 Oct 27;9(43):eadh0215.

doi: 10.1126/sciadv.adh0215. Epub 2023 Oct 27.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2207.08731>

SCIENCE ADVANCES | RESEARCH ARTICLE

NETWORK SCIENCE

Network medicine framework reveals generic herb-symptom effectiveness of traditional Chinese medicine

Xiao Gan^{1,2,3,4,5*}, Zixin Shu⁶, Xinyan Wang⁶, Dengying Yan⁶, Jun Li⁷, Shany Ofaim², Réka Albert^{4,5}, Xiaodong Li^{7,8}, Baoyan Liu⁹, Xuezhong Zhou^{6*}, Albert-László Barabási^{2,10*}

Understanding natural and traditional medicine can lead to world-changing drug discoveries. Despite the therapeutic effectiveness of individual herbs, traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) lacks a scientific foundation and is often considered a myth. In this study, we establish a network medicine framework and reveal the general TCM treatment principle as the topological relationship between disease symptoms and TCM herb targets on the human protein interactome. We find that proteins associated with a symptom form a network module, and the network proximity of an herb's targets to a symptom module is predictive of the herb's effectiveness in treating the symptom. These findings are validated using patient data from a hospital. We highlight the translational value of our framework by predicting herb-symptom treatments with therapeutic potential. Our network medicine framework reveals the scientific foundation of TCM and establishes a paradigm for understanding the molecular basis of natural medicine and predicting disease treatments.

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INTRODUCTION

Understanding the therapeutic effects of traditional and natural medicine can lead to drug discoveries that reshape world welfare. For example, aspirin (acetylsalicylic acid) is extracted from willow bark, a traditional medicine practice since thousands of years ago (1). More recently, the 2015 Nobel Prize was given to the discovery of the malaria-treating artemisinin, extracted from *qinghao* (*Artemisia annua*), an herb used in traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) (2). As a famous practice of natural medicine, TCM is a personalized and holistic approach to treating diseases using natural medical products tailored to a patient's symptoms, offering a rich pool of therapeutic candidates (3–5). However, although clinical data and studies of single herbs/prescriptions (6, 7) showed that certain TCM herbal treatments are effective, the general mechanistic principle of how TCM selects herbs to treat diseases remains unknown. Two major challenges exist in understanding the mechanistic root of TCM: (i) The lack of scientific foundation in classic TCM theory obstructs the understanding of TCM from a modern biomedical perspective; (ii) the complexity of herbs' chemical composition and the often-unknown therapeutic protein targets of the chemicals makes conventional brute-force herb/chemical screening infeasible. Therefore, to understand and exploit the therapeutic mechanisms of TCM, it is necessary to establish a framework that

can connect TCM knowledge to modern biomedical science and can handle the complexity of herb composition and target data.

An *in silico* strategy to understand the therapeutic effect of a natural product is to leverage the multiple protein targets of its composing chemicals via network pharmacology (8) and network medicine (9–12). Network pharmacology emphasizes the “network target, multi-components” paradigm that complements conventional research's focus on single targets. This approach has helped researchers identify herbal chemicals with therapeutic potentials, better understand mechanisms of action, and discover drugs (13–15). However, existing TCM network pharmacology studies are limited to single herbs or single prescriptions, unable to explain the totality of TCM herb-disease relations. Moreover, many network pharmacology approaches only consider herbs/drugs that target disease genes directly, unable to account for network effects, e.g., when the impact of perturbing a target emerges further downstream and is mediated by protein interactions. Here, we propose avenues to overcome these limitations and improve our understanding of the therapeutic effects of natural products.

Network medicine leverages the human protein-protein interactome (PPI) to reveal disease and drug patterns (9). The PPI is a network consisting of nodes that are proteins that link to each other by physical (binding) interactions. Network medicine showed that disease-associated proteins tend to form locally clustered modules in the PPI, and shorter network distance between two disease modules is indicative of their comorbidity (16); moreover, drug efficacy can be predicted by leveraging the network relation between drug targets and disease modules (17, 18), leading to the development of drug-repurposing methodologies (19). These methods have been successful in identifying drug-repurposing candidates for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and in understanding the network patterns of effective drugs (20). Furthermore, some of these tools have already affected clinical practice, like the network-based diagnostic tool available for patients with rheumatoid arthritis (21). Unlike earlier network pharmacology approaches, network medicine characterizes drug-disease

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iii

BATMAN-TCM 2.0: an enhanced integrative database for known and predicted linkages between traditional Chinese medicine ingredients and target proteins



Kong X, Liu C, Zhang Z, Cheng M, Mei Z, Li X, Liu P, Diao L; Ma Y, Jiang P; Kong X, Nie S, Guo Y, Wang Z, Zhang X, Wang Y, Tang L, Guo S, Liu Z, Li D.

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 Database issue

OXFORD

BATMAN-TCM 2.0: an enhanced integrative database for known and predicted interactions between traditional Chinese medicine ingredients and target proteins

Xiangren Kong^{1,†}, Chao Liu^{1,†}, Zuzhen Zhang^{2,†}, Meiqi Cheng^{3,†}, Zhijun Mei³, Xiangdong Li³, Peng Liu³, Lihong Diao⁴, Yajie Ma³, Peng Jiang⁵, Xiangya Kong⁵, Shiyun Nie¹, Yingzi Guo¹, Ze Wang¹, Xinlei Zhang⁵, Yan Wang¹, Liujun Tang¹, Shuzhen Guo^{4,*}, Zhongyang Liu^{1,2,3,*} and Dong Li^{1,2,3,*}

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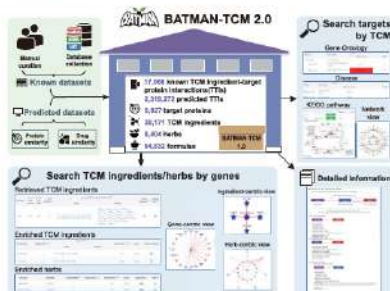
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^{*}The authors wish it to be known that, in their opinion, the first four authors should be regarded as Joint First Authors.

Abstract

Traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) is increasingly recognized and utilized worldwide. However, the complex ingredients of TCM and their interactions with the human body make elucidating molecular mechanisms challenging, which greatly hinders the modernization of TCM. In 2016, we developed BATMAN-TCM 1.0, which is an integrated database of TCM ingredient–target protein interaction (TTI) for pharmacology research. Here, to address the growing need for a higher coverage TTI dataset, and using omics data to screen active TCM ingredients or herbs for complex disease treatment, we updated BATMAN-TCM to version 2.0 (<http://bionet.ncpsb.org.cn/batman-tcm/>). Using the same protocol as version 1.0, we collected 17 068 known TTIs by manual curation (with a 62.3-fold increase), and predicted ~2.3 million high-confidence TTIs. In addition, we incorporated three new features into the updated version: (i) it enables simultaneous exploration of the target of TCM ingredient for pharmacology research and TCM ingredients binding to target proteins for drug discovery; (ii) it has significantly expanded TTI coverage, and (iii) the website was redesigned for better user experience and higher speed. We believe that BATMAN-TCM 2.0, as a discovery repository, will contribute to the study of TCM molecular mechanisms and the development of new drugs for complex diseases.

Graphical abstract



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Efficacy of Acupuncture for Chronic Spontaneous Urticaria : A Randomized Controlled Trial.

Annals of Internal Medicine®

Author: Zheng H, et al.

Journal: *Annals of Internal Medicine*

Detail:

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https://www.acpjournals.org/doi/10.7326/M23-1043?url_ver=Z39.88-2003&rfr_id=ori:rid:crossref.org&rfr_dat=cr_pub%20%20pubmed

Original Research

Efficacy of Acupuncture for Chronic Spontaneous Urticaria

A Randomized Controlled Trial

Hui Zheng, MD, PhD* , Xian-Jun Xiao, MD, PhD*, Yun-Zhou Shi, MD, PhD* , ... [See More](#) 

Author, Article, and Disclosure Information

<https://doi.org/10.7326/M23-1043>

Eligible for CME Point-of-Care

Abstract

Background:

The effectiveness of acupuncture for patients with chronic spontaneous urticaria (CSU), reported in a few small-scale studies, is not convincing.

FIGURES REFERENCES RELATED DETAILS



Latest

KEYWORDS

Acupuncture

Pruritus

Randomized trials

Traditional Chinese medicine

Urticaria

History:

Published: 14 November 2023

Cannabis-Related Disorders and Toxic Effects

Author: David A. Gorelick, M.D., Ph.D.

Journal: *The New England Journal of Medicine*

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<https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMra2212152>

THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

REVIEW ARTICLE

C. Corey Hardin, M.D., Ph.D., *Editor*

Cannabis-Related Disorders and Toxic Effects

David A. Gorelick, M.D., Ph.D.

CANNABIS (SOMETIMES CALLED MARIJUANA) IS A BROAD TERM THAT CAN refer to a specific plant (genus *Cannabis*), the chemicals contained in the plant, their synthetic counterparts and analogues, and products derived from any of these things. The cannabis plant contains more than 500 identified chemicals, many of which are not well characterized pharmacologically,¹ including more than 125 phytocannabinoids. The most studied phytocannabinoids are delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and cannabidiol (CBD). THC is considered the primary psychoactive compound in cannabis, responsible for many of its psychological and physiological effects. CBD is also psychoactive (anxiolytic, analgesic, and possibly antipsychotic) but is not euphorogenic. Dozens of terpenes and flavonoids are also present. Terpenes confer the distinctive odor emitted by cannabis buds.

Cannabis has a dichotomous legal status in the United States.² The cannabis plant and all the compounds and products derived from it (with one exception) are classified in Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act. This classification renders them illegal at the federal level. The 2018 Farm Bill removed cannabis plants containing less than 0.3% THC from the jurisdiction of the Controlled Substances Act and defined them as hemp. The CBD products now widely available in the United States are presumably derived from hemp. In contrast, as of November 8, 2023, under state law, cannabis was legal for medicinal use in 38 states, the District of Columbia, and 3 territories and for recreational use (so-called adult use) in 24 states, the District of Columbia, and 2 territories. An additional 9 states allow medicinal use of cannabis products with low THC and high CBD content. Thus, only 3 states (Idaho, Kansas, and Nebraska) have no form of legalized cannabis product.

This article reviews the diagnosis and treatment of the seven cannabis-related disorders defined in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, fifth edition, text revision (DSM-5-TR)³ (Table 1). Some of the toxic effects that are associated with long-term cannabis use are reviewed here and in the Supplementary Appendix, available with the full text of this article at NEJM.org.

EPIDEMIOLOGY AND BURDEN OF ILLNESS

Cannabis is one of the most commonly used psychoactive substances globally, trailing only caffeine, alcohol, and tobacco (nicotine). Worldwide, an estimated 209 million persons 15 to 64 years of age used cannabis in 2020, representing about 4% of the global population in that age group.⁴ In the United States, an estimated 52.4 million persons 12 years of age or older used cannabis in 2021, representing 18.7% of the community-dwelling population in that age group,⁵ and 16.2 million persons met the diagnostic criteria for cannabis use disorder, which has as its core feature the use of cannabis despite adverse consequences. Cannabis use disorder occurs in all age groups but is primarily a disease of young adults. The median

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2267

The New England Journal of Medicine

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International clinical practice guideline on the use of traditional Chinese medicine for ulcerative colitis by Board of Specialty Committee of Digestive System Disease of World Federation of Chinese Medicine Societies (2023)

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Journal: *Phytotherapy Research*

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RESEARCH ARTICLE

WILEY

International clinical practice guideline on the use of traditional Chinese medicine for ulcerative colitis by Board of Specialty Committee of Digestive System Disease of World Federation of Chinese Medicine Societies (2023)

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Danping Qin⁴ | Junxiang Li⁵ | Beiping Zhang⁶ | Guanhu Yang⁷ |
Minhu Chen⁸ | Kaichun Wu^{9,10} | Zhanju Liu¹¹ | Hong Yang¹² |
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DISCLAIMER This guideline is based on existing evidence and expert consensus, and cannot replace a medical consultation and medical decision-making. Users of the guideline must abide by the laws and drug contraindications in their respective regions. The guideline development panel does not assume any responsibility for the problems arising from the treatment of diseases according to this guideline.

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Phytotherapy Research, 2023, 1–30.

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A selection of recently published papers
in *Frontiers in Pharmacology*

 **frontiers** Journal: *Frontiers in Pharmacology*

**Repairing the intestinal mucosal barrier of
traditional Chinese medicine for ulcerative colitis: a review**

Detail: <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fphar.2023.1273407/full>

**Chinese olive (*Canarium album* Rauesch.): a critical review on its
nutritional value, phytochemical composition, health benefits,
and practical applications**

Detail: <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fphar.2023.1275113/full>

**Efficacy and safety of Chinese herbal medicine in post-stroke epilepsy:
a systematic review and meta-analysis**

Detail: <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fphar.2023.1286093/full>



2024
May
23-25

Bridging the Two Worlds: Engaging Traditional Chinese Medicine in Modern Health Care



Date: 23-25/05/2024

Location:

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong SAR, China

Organizers:

The Society for Acupuncture Research

Research Centre for Chinese Medicine Innovation (RCMI), Hong Kong Polytechnic University



SAR / RCMI PolyU Research Conference

May 23-25, 2024

Hong Kong

SAR/ RCMI PolyU International Research Conference: May 23-25, 2024, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong SAR, China

Call for Abstracts

*Bridging the Two Worlds: Engaging Traditional Chinese Medicine
in Modern Health Care*



Abstract submission deadline: **January 12, 2024**

We are pleased to announce that SAR will be jointly organizing an upcoming conference with the [Research Centre for Chinese Medicine Innovation \(RCMI\)](#) of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

The SAR / [RCMI PolyU](#) 2024 conference will present a platform wherein researchers from various healthcare professionals and disciplines can share, explore, and develop novel research hypotheses and strategies for acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM). The primary objective of this conference is to construct a robust bridge between the East and West, with the aim of advancing the scientific understanding and evidence-based clinical applications of acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM). Our goal is to enhance patient outcomes and optimize health care delivery through this integration.

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We seek to build bridges between basic mechanisms and precision clinical medicine, as well as ancient wisdom (e.g. personalized therapies) and modern technology (e.g. Artificial Intelligence). This fusion will not only honor the rich heritage of TCM but also pave the way for its evolution in the modern health care landscape.

Abstract submission

Abstracts are solicited for presentations in the areas of clinical research, basic science and research methodology pertaining to acupuncture, Chinese herbal medicine, and other modalities of Traditional Chinese Medicine including moxibustion, Tai Chi, Tui Na (massage), Qi Gong and complex lifestyle modification. We also welcome abstracts on novel education methods, care innovation/delivery to promote the collaborations between researchers and frontline educators and clinicians. Abstracts will be reviewed by the conference Scientific Review Committee and prospective presenters will be informed by February 13, 2024 as to whether their research has been accepted for oral or poster presentation.

Please upload your abstracts by January 12, 2024 to: <https://softconf.com/n/sar-hk2024>

Abstracts submitted after January 12, 2024 will not be considered.



摘要征集启示

会议主题「架起两个世界的桥梁：将传统中医融入现代医疗保健」

摘要提交截止日期：2024年1月12日

美国针刺研究学会（SAR）与香港理工大学中医药创新研究中心（RCMI）将于2024年5月23-25日联合举办一次主题为「架起两个世界的桥梁：将传统中医融入现代医疗保健」的会议，会议地为中国香港特别行政区香港理工大学。

本届会议旨在为不同医疗专业学科的研究人员提供一个交流分享的平台，以探索、发展针灸和中医的新研究假设和新策略。本次会议的主要目标是建立一座联系沟通东方与西方的坚固桥梁，促进对针灸和中医学的学科认识及循证临床应用，以这种融合的形式提高对患者治疗疗效、优化医疗保健服务。

我们将基础机制和精准医疗、传统智慧（例如个性化治疗）和现代技术（例如人工智能）相结合。这种结合不仅遵循了中医丰富的传统文化，而且在现代医疗保健领域的发展中具有重大意义。

摘要提交

摘要征集内容涉及针灸、中草药以及艾灸、太极、推拿（按摩）、气功和复杂的生活方式改变等其他中医疗法的临床研究、基础实验研究和研究方法。此外，我们还接受有关新颖的教育方法、提供或更新护理方式的摘要，以促进研究人员与一线教育工作者和临床医生之间的合作。摘要将由会议科学评审委员会进行评审，摘要递交者将会于2024年2月13日之前收到通知，被告知是否被接受进行口头演讲或海报演示。

请在2024年1月12日之前将您的摘要（只限英文）上传至：

<https://softconf.com/n/sar-hk2024>

2024年1月12日之后提交的摘要将不予考虑。

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SAR/ RCMI PolyU International Research Conference: May 23-25, 2024
Hong Kong SAR, China

Call for Symposia

Bridging the Two Worlds: Engaging Traditional Chinese Medicine in Modern Health Care

SYMPOSIUM SUBMISSIONS

We invite you to submit your ideas for a plenary symposium, and SAR/RCMI PolyU's Conference Program Committee will select the most meritorious submission(s) for plenary symposia during the conference. General topic categories may include acupuncture, herbal medicine, Tai Chi, Qigong, Tuina, TCM, and whole system approaches. Priority will be given to topics that relate to the 2024 conference theme:
Bridging the Two Worlds: Engaging Traditional Chinese Medicine in Modern Health Care

Examples:

- Interventions (e.g. herbs, acupuncture techniques, etc.)
- Health conditions (women's health, aging, etc.)
- Methods (brain imaging, mixed-methods research, etc.)
- Relevant areas (teaching research in universities, global dissemination of acupuncture research, etc.)

Symposia Submission Deadline: February 20, 2024

Please use the following link to submit your symposia idea online:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2024HongKong>

Abstracts submitted after February 20, 2024 will not be considered.

Detailed instructions will be provided to those whose symposia ideas are accepted.

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专题研讨会议题征集启示

会议主题「架起两个世界的桥梁：将传统中医融入现代医疗保健」

专题研讨会议题提交

我们邀请您提交您对研讨会的想法，美国针刺研究学会与香港理工大学中医药创新研究中心（SAR/RCMI）会议计划委员会将会选出最有价值的议题在会议期间进行讨论。议题类别包括但不限于针灸、草药、太极、气功、推拿、中医和整个系统方法，并将优先考虑与2024年会议主题“架起两个世界的桥梁：将传统中医融入现代医疗保健”相关的议题。

例如：

- 干预方式（如中草药、针灸技术等）
- 健康状况（女性健康、老龄化等）
- 检查方法（脑影像、混合方法研究等）
- 相关领域（高校教学研究、针灸研究全球传播等）

研讨会提交截止日期：2024年2月20日

请使用以下链接在线提交您的研讨会想法：

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2024HongKong>

2024年2月20日之后提交的摘要将不予考虑。

研讨会议题被采纳者将得到详细说明。

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Journal: *Frontiers in Pharmacology* 

Topic	Traditional Processing Methods in Ethnopharmacology: Enhancing Therapeutic Effects and Unveiling Mechanisms of Action
Deadline	Manuscript Summary Submission Deadline 14 January 2024 Manuscript Submission Deadline 03 May 2024
Details	https://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/60726/traditional-processing-methods-in-ethnopharmacology-enhancing-therapeutic-effects-and-unveiling-mechanisms-of-action
 Editor(s)	<p>Lingyun Zhong Jiangxi University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Nanchang, China</p> <p>Qianfeng Gong Jiangxi University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Nanchang, China</p> <p>José Carlos Tavares Carvalho Universidade Federal do Amapá, Macapá, Brazil</p> <p>Bey Hing Goh Sunway Biofunctional Molecules Discovery Centre (SBDMC), School of Medical and Life Sciences, Sunway University, Bandar Sunway, Malaysia</p>

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Journal: *Frontiers in Pharmacology* 

Topic	Insights in Ethnopharmacology: 2023
Deadline	06 February 2024(Manuscript)
Details	https://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/59100/insights-in-ethnopharmacology-2023
 Editor(s)	<p>Javier Echeverria University of Santiago, Santiago, Chile</p> <p>Michael Heinrich School of Pharmacy, Faculty of Life Sciences, University College London, London, United Kingdom Chinese Medicine Research and Development Center, China Medical University Hospital, Taichung, Taiwan</p> <p>Cheorl-Ho Kim Department of Biological Sciences, College of Science, Sungkyunkwan University, Suwon, Republic of Korea Samsung Advanced Institute for Health Sciences & Technology, Sungkyunkwan University, Jongno-gu, Republic of Korea</p> <p>Hung-Rong Yen China Medical University (Taiwan) & China Medical University Hospital, Taichung, Taiwan</p> <p>Aiping Lyu Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong, SAR China</p>

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Journal: *Frontiers in Pharmacology* 

Topic	Traditional Medicines and Natural Products for Gut-X Axis: Pharmacology, Toxicology and Microbiology in the Context of Drug Discovery and Herbal Medicine Use - Volume II
Deadline	Manuscript Submission Deadline 14 March 2024
Details	https://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/59578/traditional-medicines-and-natural-products-for-gut-x-axis-pharmacology-toxicology-and-microbiology-in-the-context-of-drug-discovery-and-herbal-medicine-use---volume-ii
 Editor(s)	<p>Yi Wu Nanjing Agricultural University, Nanjing, China</p> <p>Na Sun University of Houston, Houston, United States</p> <p>Xiaoxiao Yang Hefei University of Technology, Hefei, China</p> 

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Journal: *Frontiers in Pharmacology* 

Topic	Reviews in Ethnopharmacology: 2023
Deadline	21 January 2024(Manuscript)
Details	https://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/57987/reviews-in-ethnopharmacology-2023
 Editor(s)	<p>Irina Ielciu University of Medicine and Pharmacy Iuliu Hatieganu, Cluj-Napoca, Romania</p> <p>Rajeev K. Singla West China Hospital, Sichuan University, Chengdu, China</p> <p>Hanganu Daniela University of Medicine and Pharmacy Iuliu Hatieganu, Cluj-Napoca, Romania</p> <p>Michel Frederich University of Liège, Liège, Belgium</p>

Topic	Real-World Evidence of Natural Products, Herbal Medicines, and Traditional Medicine Treatments Volume II
Deadline	Manuscript Submission Deadline 30 May 2024
Details	https://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/61054/real-world-evidence-of-natural-products-herbal-medicines-and-traditional-medicine-treatments-volume-ii
 Editor(s)	<p>Liyun He Institute of Basic Research in Clinical Medicine, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences, Beijing, China</p> <p>Yi Guo Tianjin University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Tianjin, China</p> <p>Yi Wang China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences, Beijing, China</p> <p>Yiming Li Swiss TCM University, Bad Zurzach, Switzerland</p> <p>Xuezhong Zhou School of Computer and Information Technology, Beijing Jiaotong University, Beijing, China</p> 





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Journal: *Frontiers in Pharmacology* frontiers

Topic	Emerging Trends in the Quality Check of Herbal Medicines, Supplements and 'Botanicals'
Deadline	Manuscript Summary Submission Deadline 24 January 2024 Manuscript Submission Deadline 13 May 2024
Details	https://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/60991/emerging-trends-in-the-quality-check-of-herbal-medicines-supplements-and-botanicals
 Editor(s)	<p>Alessandra Durazzo Research Centre for Food and Nutrition, Council for Agricultural Research and Economics, Rome, Italy</p> <p>Daniel Dias Rufino Arcanjo Departamento de Biofísica e Fisiologia, Universidade Federal do Piauí, Teresina, Brazil</p> <p>Massimo Lucarini Research Centre for Food and Nutrition, Council for Agricultural Research and Economics, Rome, Italy</p> 

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Journal: *Frontiers in Pharmacology* frontiers

Topic	Restoring Barrier Function and Immunity: What Roles Can Traditional Medicines Play?
Deadline	Manuscript Submission Deadline 01 May 2024
Details	https://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/57580/restoring-barrier-function-and-immunity-what-roles-can-traditional-medicines-play
 Editor(s)	<p>Gang Chen Shenyang Pharmaceutical University, Shenyang, China</p> <p>Xuezheng Li Yanbian University Hospital, Yanji, China</p> <p>Jing Wu Greater Baltimore Medical Center, Baltimore, United States</p> <p>Ning Li Shenyang Pharmaceutical University, Shenyang, China</p>



Student's Corner

Postgraduate Opportunities

Opportunities in Europe

Germany



https://academicpositions.com/ad/cologne-graduate-school-ageing-research-cga/2022/12-fully-funded-phd-positions/181690?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=scm-cga-092022+med-hi



<https://www.humboldt-foundation.de/en/apply/sponsorship-programmes/humboldt-research-fellowship>



<https://www.daad.de/en/study-and-research-in-germany/>



Postgraduate Opportunities

Opportunities around the world

Gratz - Austria



<https://agristok.net/2022/09/03/phd-fully-funded-position-in-plant-molecular-biology-at-university-of-graz-in-austria/>

International



https://jobs.msd.com/gb/en/job/R197090/Scientist-Medicinal-Chemistry/?utm_source=linkedin&utm_campaign=job-share&utm_medium=social-share

Denmark



<https://www.dtu.dk/om-dtu/job-og-karriere/ledige-stillinger/job?id=d2e2591d-1d14-43ff-8557-6e6ce0fc3a58>



Postgraduate Opportunities

Opportunities around the world

Australia



University of Melbourne

<https://lnkd.in/dxjXv-JJ8>



Ireland



Irish Research Council

<https://research.ie/funding/>

Singapore



<https://lnkd.in/dra7MV8>



Scientists wanting to go into business – fully Undergraduate/ Postgraduate/ PhD graduate degrees in Management – Basic degree multi centre with significant funding

- VERY INTERESTING PROGRAMME

<https://www.spjain.ae>

UK: register for job alerts

<https://charnwoodmolecular.livevacancies.co.uk/#/>





Freely Accessible Learning Material

Interesting articles

Studying abroad



https://www.science.org/content/article/doing-research-abroad-felt-lonely-heres-how-i-made-friends?utm_campaign=SciMag&utm_source=Social&utm_medium=LinkedIn

Intellectual property



https://micheonip.com/intellectual-property-non-disclosure-agreement/?utm_campaign=Michelson&20Institute%20for%20intellectual%20Property&utm_content=212335938&utm_medium=social&utm_source=linkedin&hss_channel=lcp-42772499

like

Freely Accessible Learning Material

Online learning Platforms



Fantastic resource. Courses from all disciplines. Free to study. Accreditation available at a cost.

Well worth exploring

- <https://www.edx.org/>
- <https://englishforuniversity.com/resources/>
- <https://owl.purdue.edu/>



Webinar- How To Avoid Plagiarism?

Webinar to give information re plagiarism

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sHhGY4c61v4>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=33R43YF9DzI>



Freely Accessible Learning Material

Free Lecture series

Integrative Medicine Research Lecture Series

Information and resources from the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health, U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH).

- www.nccih.gov

GREAT SELECTION OF WEBINARS

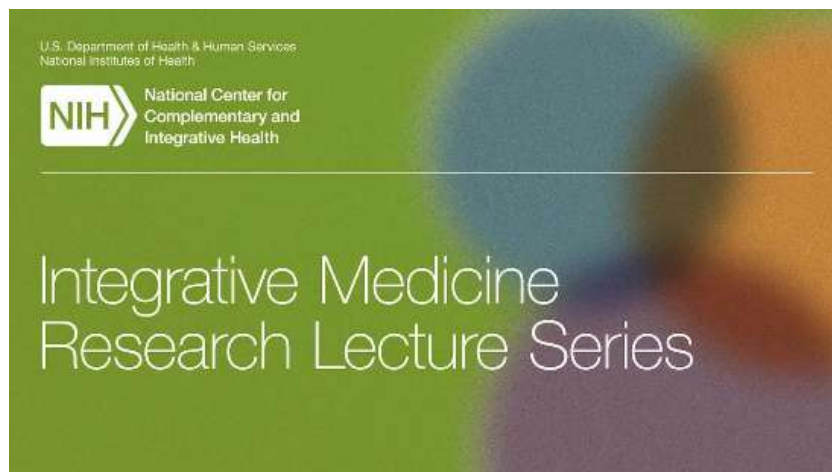
- <https://www.herbalgram.org/news/webinar-page/>



KEEP AN EYE ON

<https://www.pharmacognosy.us/>

<https://www.herbalgram.org>



<https://www.nccih.nih.gov/news/events/imlectures?nav=li>

Great Selection of Webinars - From the Sustainable Herbs Programme

Botanical Supply Sustainability in the Time of COVID

- <https://vimeo.com/457513678>

Plants, People & Culture: The Science of Ethnobotany

- <https://vimeo.com/460565477>



The Business Case for Sustainability

- <https://vimeo.com/465447452>

Cross-cultural Understanding of Local Herbal Knowledge and Chinese traditional Daodi Materia Medica

- <https://vimeo.com/668389245>

Sourcing Botanicals and Quality Control: A Conversation with Michael Heinrich and Anthony Booker

- <https://vimeo.com/642467580>

Introducing the WildCheck Report: Assessing Risk & Opportunities of Trade in Wild Plant Ingredients

- <https://vimeo.com/704246800>

Certifications as a Path to Sustainability? A Conversation about the Opportunities and Limits of Certification

- <https://vimeo.com/540314958>



AND MANY MORE

<https://vimeo.com/457513678>



Buchi Mini series of webinars – covering Drug Discovery Using Natural Resources



 The speaker: Prof. Dr. Elfahmi

There is a separate registration requirement for each webinar.

[https://cloud.infohub.buchi.com/drug-discovery/with-prof-elfahmi?utm_source=email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=gl-2022-webinars-mini-webinars-with-prof-elfahmi&utm_content=34316261&utm_term=mc=34316261](https://cloud.infohub.buchi.com/drug-discovery/with-prof-elfahmi?utm_source=email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=gl-2022-webinars-mini-webinars-with-prof-elfahmi&utm_content=34316261&utm_term=mc=34316261&utm_campaign=gl-2022-webinars-mini-webinars-with-prof-elfahmi&utm_content=34316261&utm_term=mc=34316261&utm_campaign=gl-2022-webinars-mini-webinars-with-prof-elfahmi&utm_content=34316261&utm_term=mc=34316261)



Episode 1: Drug Discovery and Development Workflow

Discover four essential steps in drug discovery and development: literature review & preliminary screening, biology development, physiochemical & pharmaceutical development. Gain a process overview for the isolation of active compounds from plants using bioactivity-guided fractionation.



Episode 2: Concentration of Natural Products

Explore the workflow for processing of natural compounds: sampling & crushing, extraction & concentration; fractionation & purification; structure identification and product packaging. Learn about extract/fraction concentration through solvent removal by rotary evaporation. Find challenges and solutions to efficiency, foaming, bumping, plus optimization tips for temperature difference, pressure values, flask size, rotation speed and condenser loading.



Episode 3: Purification Techniques for Natural Products

Learn fundamentals and protocols for relevant methods, including liquid-liquid fractionation (phase separation), winterization, microporous resin chromatography, flash and vacuum liquid chromatography, radial chromatography, crystallization, preparative column chromatography. See it in action with a case study on the purification of asiaticoside & madecassoside from *Centella asiatica*.



Episode 4: Past, Present and Future of Herbal Medicines

Gain a comprehensive overview of the history of plant use in drugs and pharmacy, including milestones in the development of herbal medicines. See current global use, benefits and challenges facing alternative or traditional medicine. Look into the future of herbal medicine development with predictions on how this branch will develop.





International Conferences

Conference information

 Lots of interesting and relevant conferences to be found at these links.



Traditional medicine Conferences in 2023

- <https://waset.org/traditional-medicine-conferences-in-2023>

Phytochemistry Conferences

- <https://waset.org/phytochemistry-conferences>






Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

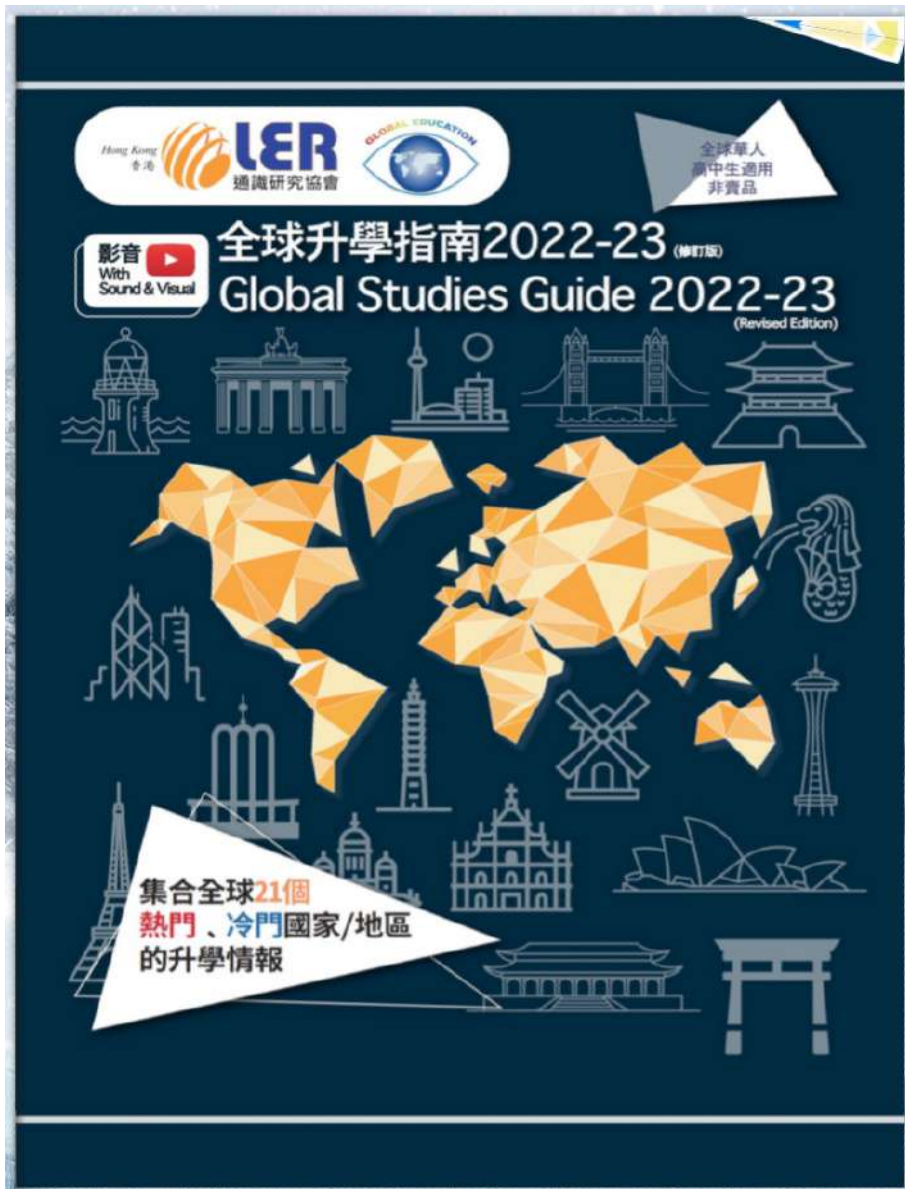
i

China Scholarship Council (CSC) – Trinity College Dublin Joint Scholarship Programme

 Details: <https://www.tcd.ie/study/international/scholarships/Postgraduate/csc.php>



i Global Studies Guide 2022-23



Details: <https://online.fliphtml5.com/pwsrn/pjso/>



香港中文大學中醫學院

School of Chinese Medicine
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

ii



PhD in Chinese Medicine
School of Chinese Medicine,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong



Details: <http://www.scm.cuhk.edu.hk/en-gb/programs/research-master-doctoral-program/phd-in-chinese-medicine>



香港浸會大學

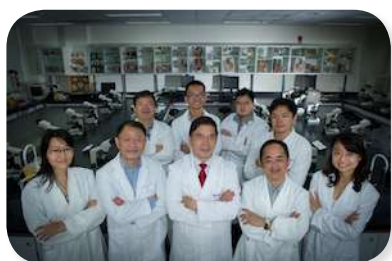
HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY



中醫藥學院

School of
Chinese Medicine

iii



Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Biomedical Sciences/
Chinese Medicine/
Translational Medicine/
Pharmacy in Chinese Medicine
School of Chinese Medicine, Hong Kong Baptist University



Details: https://scm.hkbu.edu.hk/en/education/research_postgraduate_programmes/index.html#list/0



LKS Faculty of Medicine

The University of Hong Kong
香港大學李嘉誠醫學院



中醫藥學院

iv



PhD in Chinese Medicine
School of Chinese Medicine, The University of Hong Kong



Details: <https://scm.hku.hk/Views/Programme/English-MPhilPhD.html>



澳門大學

UNIVERSIDADE DE MACAU
UNIVERSITY OF MACAU



中藥質量研究國家重點實驗室 (澳門大學)
Laboratório de Referência do Estado para Investigação de
Qualidade em Medicina Chinesa (Universidade de Macau)
State Key Laboratory of Quality Research in Chinese Medicine
(University of Macau)

中華醫藥研究院
Instituto de Ciências Médicas Chinesas
Institute of Chinese Medical Sciences

v



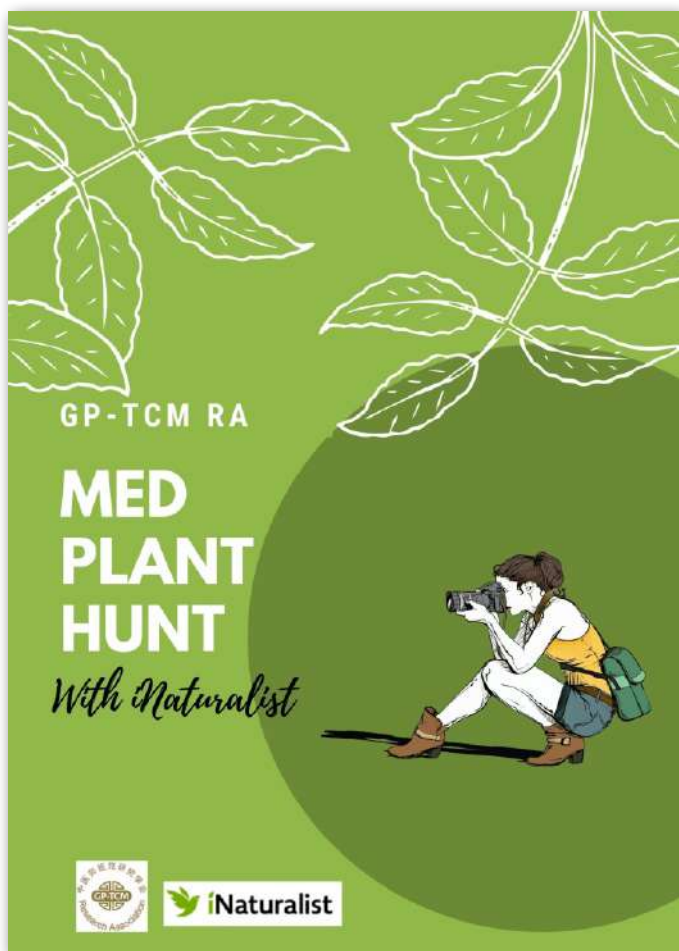
Doctoral Degree in Biomedical Science
Institute of Chinese Medical Sciences, University of Macau



Details: <https://sklqrcm.um.edu.mo/doctoral-degree-in-biomedical-science/>

Med Plant Hunt with iNaturalist

i



In order to promote conservation of wildlife, especially wild medicinal plant and TCM herbs, and their environment, a challenge on **“Med Plant Hunt”** is launched.

The aim of challenge is to encourage our members to identify and recognize the morphological features of living wild medicinal plant in nature.

Eligibility:

Med Plant Hunt is free and open to all GP-TCM RA members.

Entries must abide by the guidelines below.

Rules & Guidelines:

iNaturalist is a nature app to help you identify the animals and plants around you and provide a platform to connect you and experts to share about nature. Users can record and share their observations and the findings can enrich scientific data repositories like the Global Biodiversity Information Facility.

Create your own account and share your wild medicinal plant observation to mobile iNaturalist app or iNaturalist website.

How to enter:

1. Complete the registration form with iNaturalist user ID.
2. Make the observation of living wild medicinal plant around you with iNaturalist app/website.
3. With the submitted iNaturalist ID, your observation for entry will be automatically recorded and results will be announced in the coming issue of the newsletter.



How to join



Registration form



How to upload

For inquiries about Med Plant Hunt, please send email to

gptcm_medplanthunt@outlook.com





Med Plant Hunt with iNaturalist

i



Prizes:

- **Adventurous Observer: The highest number of observed species**
- **TCM Photographer: Best photo shoot**
- **Lucky Observer: Observe rare species**



The selected entries will be published on the next issue of the newsletter. An electronic certificate and a **complementary gift** (e.g. water bottle ideal for outdoor activities, sponsored by Macau Pharmacology Association) will be given.



澳門藥理協會

MED PLANT HUNT

With iNaturalist

Med Plant Hunt Registration Form

Name:

Email:

Affiliation:

Country or region:

iNaturalist account information

User name:

User email:

(Please send the form to gptcm_medplanthunt@outlook.com for registration)



Online registration



How to join



Registration form



How to upload



Asian pokeweed (*Phytolacca acinosa*, Phytolaccaceae, 商陆, left) and American pokeweed (*Phytolacca americana*, Phytolaccaceae, 垂序商陆, right)



Official in Chinese pharmacopoeia, the dried root of Asian pokeweed (*Phytolacca acinosa*) or American pokeweed (*Phytolacca americana*) is known as the Chinese medicinal *shanglu* (phytolacca radix). It is a bitter and cold Chinese medicinal that drastically drives out water through the urethra and anus (oral administration), resolves toxicity and reduces swelling (topical administration). It is indicated for edema with constipation and urinary difficulty, as well as hot-type sores and carbuncles.

Phytolacca radix contains toxic constituents: phytolaccatoxins. Improper ingestion may cause pokeweed poisoning manifested as general weakness, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and abdominal pain. In severe cases, respiratory depression, convulsion, heart block and even death may occur. Phytolacca radix is occasionally misidentified as the tonifying Chinese medicinal *renshen* (ginseng radix et rhizoma) because of their similarity in appearance. Poisoning events also happen sporadically due to this adulteration. Although processing with vinegar, or decocting for a longer time may reduce its toxicity, phytolacca radix should always be used with great caution.


商陆

直茎肉质或为红
纸叶素花寻院中
不见平常来入药
时观月下水流通

垂序商陆

来源北美与人高
略紫茎匍立傲娇
花素微红垂下果
毒身若见去时遥

The above colour photographs, English texts and Chinese poems are contributed by Prof **Hubiao Chen** (Hong Kong), Dr **Ping Guo** (Hong Kong) and Prof **Jiqing Liu** (Shenzhen), respectively. This column is advised by Prof **Zhongzhen Zhao** (Hong Kong).

 Just click here to enjoy the video: https://uofmacau-my.sharepoint.com/:v/g/personal/yc37514_um_edu_mo/EU03EgEv_dNlmlYrrD5qecBf30NK4Ro4MY2jhD3berVxg?nav=eyJyZWZlcjhhbEluZm8iOjnsicmVmZjYyWwBcHAIQjPbmVEcmI2ZUZvcjJ1c2luZXNzIiwicmVmZjYyWwBcHBIQjE0Zm9ybSI6IldlYiIsInJlZmVycmFsTW9kZSI6InZpZXCiIjCjY2ZWZlcjhhbFZpZXCiOjJNeUZhpbGVzTGlua0NvcHkifX0&e=0Pj91Z



Asian pokeweed (*Phytolacca acinosa*, Phytolaccaceae, 商陆, left) and American pokeweed (*Phytolacca americana*, Phytolaccaceae, 垂序商陆, right)



The November-December 2023 Newsletter of GP-TCM Research Association

I Chinese Materia Medica Highlights



Just click here to enjoy the video:

https://uofmacau-my.sharepoint.com/:v/g/person/yc37514_um_edu_mo/EU03EgjEv_dNimlYrrD5qecBf30NK4Ro4MY2jhD3berVxg?nav=eyJyZWZlcjhbEluZm8iOncicmVmZXJyYWxBcHAIQjPbmVEcmI2ZUZYckJ1c2luZXNzIiwicmVmZXJyYWxBcHBIQjBGF0Zm9ybSI6IldlYiIsInJlZmVycmFsTW9kZSI6InZpZDZpZCxlCjYwZWZlcjhbEzPzXciOiJNeUZhZmVzTGlua0NvcHkifX0&e=0Pj91Z

