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### Prepared by Jess Kuok, Clara Lau and Grace Yue

The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of The Good Practice in Traditional Chinese Medicine Research Association was successfully held in Macau SAR, China, from August 24 to 26, 2024. This year, the Annual Meeting was hosted by Prof. Simon Lee (Secretary-General) and the Macau Pharmacology Association. For the first time, a 2-hour networking session for corporate members and sponsors was held as a pre-meeting session on 23 August afternoon, the day before the Annual Meeting. This session allowed GP-TCM RA corporate members, sponsors, and local corporates to discuss the future global development of TCM commercialization and the importance of good practice research for TCM industrialization.



Photo taken during the pre-meeting networking session

As a general practice, the Board of Directors (BoD), coming from different parts of the world, took the opportunity to hold a face-to-face BoD meeting on August 23 afternoon after the pre-meeting session. During this meeting, BoD members, together with the chairs and cochairs of the 7 Interest Groups participated, and several items were discussed, including the future development of GP-TCM RA. The 1.5-hour BoD meeting was followed by a dinner gathering.















Photo of the BoD dinner

The two-and-a-half-day Annual Meeting took place at the Ballroom of Regency Art Hotel in Taipa, Macau, from August 24 to 26. The opening ceremony started with the welcome remarks from Prof. Clara Lau, the President of GP-TCM RA, followed by a speech from Prof. Rui Paulo Da Silva Martins, the Vice-Rector of the University of Macau, and then a speech from the local host, Prof. Simon Lee, the Secretary General of GP-TCM RA and the President of Macau Pharmacology Association. A total of 135 participants from various cities or regions (Beijing, Chengdu, Graz, Guangzhou, Helsinki, Hong Kong, Kaohsiung, Leiden, London, Luxembourg, Macau, Mainz, Nanjing, Parma, Seoul, Shanghai, Singapore, Taichung, Taipei, etc.) attended the conference, with 62 poster presentations and 10 2-minute flash presentations. The program included 5 keynote lectures delivered by Prof. Rudolf Bauer (University of Graz, Austria), Prof. Thomas Efferth (Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany), Mr. Abraham Chan (PuraPharm International Ltd., Hong Kong SAR, China), Prof. Wendy Hsiao (Macau University of Science and Technology, Macau SAR, China), and Dr. Jing Tang (University of Helsinki, Finland). Additionally, the 7 Interest Groups organized a total of 20 lectures and one lunch time workshop on hot topics under the following categories: Quality Control (chaired by Prof. Rudolf Bauer, Prof. Monique Simmonds and Prof. De-An Guo), Pharmacology & Toxicology (chaired by Prof. Thomas Efferth, Prof. Lie-Fen Shyur and Prof. Qihe Xu), Clinical Studies (chaired by Prof. Lidan Zhong), Regulatory Aspects (chaired by Dr. Mei Wang and Dr. Li-Ping Qu), Acupuncture-Moxibustion and Meridians (chaired by Prof. Jianping Liu), and Good Clinical Practice Guidelines (chaired by Prof. Vivian Taam Wong and Dr. Chris Chan).





On Day 1, the Publication Interest Group (chaired by Dr. Myeong Soo Lee and Prof. De-An Guo) organized a lunchtime workshop, and the local host also organized a Macau Research Highlight session featuring 5 lectures.







The opening ceremony with President of GP-TCM RA Prof. Clara Lau (Center), Secretary-General of GP-TCM RA Prof. Simon Lee (right) and Vice-Rector of University of Macau Prof. Rui Paulo Da Silva Martins (left) giving welcome speeches.



The group photo taken at the Opening Ceremony















Keynote speakers (from left to right) upper row: Prof Rudolf Bauer, Prof Thomas Efferth. Mr Abraham Chan, lower row: Prof. Wendy Hsiao and Dr. Jing Tang









Photo of the chair, co-chairs and speakers of the Pharmacology & Toxicology Interest Group session



Photo of the chair, co-chair and speaker of the Regulatory Aspects Interest Group session



Photo of the chair, co-chair and speakers of the Clinical Studies Interest Group session



Photo of the chair, co-chair and speakers of the Clinical Practice Guidelines Interest Group session



Photo of the chair, co-chair and speakers of the Acupuncture-Moxibustion and Meridians Interest Group session



Photo of the chair, co-chair and speakers of the Quality Control Interest Group session





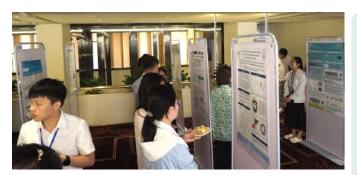
Chairpersons and speakers of the Research highlights from Macau SAR, China



Early career participants lunch gathering with President and President-Elect of GP-TCM RA



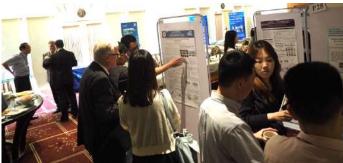












Photos showing the poster presentations and tea breaks



WJTCM, the official journal of GP-TCM RA











Exhibition booths

On Day 2 (August 25), an Early Career Participants Lunch Gathering with the President of GP-TCM RA, Prof. Clara Lau, and President-Elect of GP-TCM RA, Dr. Mei Wang was held. Prof. Clara Lau and Dr. Mei Wang took this opportunity to introduce GP-TCM RA to the students and young researchers, with the help of the student representative Ms Yingying Guo. Past-President Prof. Monique Simmonds encouraged participants by noting that all experienced experts were once students. Each early career participant had the opportunity to introduce themselves and provide feedback on how GP-TCM RA could facilitate their research career development. Later in the afternoon, the AGM was held where Prof. Clara Lau presented the President's report, introducing the objectives and mission of GP-TCM RA, the latest membership statistics and the two Interest Group online seminars and workshops held previously. Prof. Simon Lee then presented the Secretary-General's report. During the AGM, Prof. Clara Lau announced that the 13th Annual Meeting would be held at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, in London, UK, possibly in the summer of 2025 (exact date to be confirmed), and will be hosted by Prof. Monique Simmonds (Past President).





President and Secretary-General giving their reports at AGM 2024





At the end of Day 2, the conference dinner took place at the Oasis, Galaxy Resort Macau. Gifts were given to all dinner participants, and Prof. Clara Lau thanked all the gift sponsors for their support of the Annual Meeting. Prof. Simon Lee also arranged for young musicians Valerie Lee and friends to perform a clarinet and flute show during the dinner.















Photos taken from the gala dinner at Oasis Galaxy Resort Macau



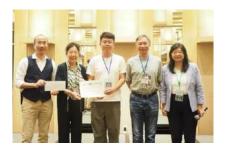
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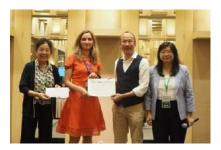
# Highlights of the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of The Good Practice in Traditional Chinese Medicine Research Association and AGM 2024

On the final day of the conference (August 26), during the 2-minute flash poster presentations, 10 abstracts were selected for brief presentations by students and young researchers. The conference concluded successfully with an awards presentation. Three Travel Awards were given to the top three submitted abstracts by students, and book awards will be presented to the presenters of the top 10 selected abstracts. In addition, the Poster Awards (in honor of our late Treasurer, Professor Peter Hylands of King's College London, UK) were given to Mr. Cheng Zhuo (1st prize), Miss Stefanie Tiefenbacher (2nd prize), and Miss Yiying Zhu (3rd prize), and also 6 Poster of Merit awards were also presented.



2-minute flash poster presenters with GP-TCM RA BoD members







Peter Hylands' Poster Awardees: (from left to right) Mr. Cheng Zhuo, Miss Stefanie Tiefenbacher, Miss Yiying Zhu

Finally, at the closing ceremony, GP-TCM RA President Prof. Clara Lau thanked the local host Prof. Simon Lee, Jess Kuok and the Macau team for hosting this year Annual Meeting. The GP-TCM RA Secretariat Dr Grace Yue has edited a video with photos taken during the entire Meeting as highlights of the 12th Annual Meeting of The Good Practice in Traditional Chinese Medicine Research Association.





Prof. Clara Lau also thanked the Platinum Sponsor: Purapharm (Hong Kong); Silver Sponsors: Bioarchitec Group Limited, Hong Kong Linke Trading Limited, Consortium of 'Belt and Road' and Portuguese-Speaking Countries for Natural Medicine Innovation (Macao); Tea Break Sponsor: Cheong Kun Pain Reliever Oil Chinese Medicine Factory (Macau) Limited; Book Sponsor: Taylor and Francis; and Gift Sponsors: Davines Group, GOLD SEASON Company Limited, Macau Original, and MYCC Science & Greater Health Manufactory.











Photos taken during the closing ceremony







Thanks to all sponsors of the  $12^{\text{th}}$  Annual Meeting of The Good Practice in Traditional Chinese Medicine Research Association (GP-TCM RA).

#### Platinum sponsor

PuraPharm International (H.K.) Ltd.



#### Silver sponsors

**Bioarchitec Group Limited** 



Hong Kong Linke Trading Limited



Consortium of 'Belt and Road' and Portuguese-Speaking Countries for Natural Medicine Innovation (Macao)



#### Tea break sponsor

Cheong Kun Pain Reliever Oil Chinese Medicine Factory (Macau) Limited



#### **Book sponsor**

Taylor & Francis Group, Informa UK Limited



#### Gift sponsors

**Davines Group** 



GOLD SEASON company Limited



Macau Original



MYCC Science & Greater Health Manufactory







The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of GP-TCM RA will be held in Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, London, UK in July 2025 (see below the 1st announcement). Hope to see you all again in the Meeting in 2025!



# The 13th GP-TCM RA Annual Meeting KeW



Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, UK

**July 2025** 

More details can be found later in GP-TCM RA website:

www.qp-tcm.org

中医药规范研究学会第13届年会

英国伦敦皇家植物园邱园

2025年7月

详情稍后见学会官网: www.gp-tcm.org

First announcement 会议第一轮通知











## New members of GP-TCM RA (July-August 2024)

	Ordinary Members
Shanrong BI	Macau University of Science and Technology, Macau SAR, China
Jung CHAO	China Medical University, Taiwan
Hanbin CHEN	Southern University of Science and Technology, China
Xingyu CHEN	Macau University of Science and Technology, Macau SAR, China
Liangliang HE	Jinan University, China
Chen HUANG	Macau University of Science and Technology, Macau SAR, China
Bin HUANG	Shenzhen Bay Laboratory, China
Vincent KENG	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong SAR, China
Shuai LI	University of Macau, Macau SAR, China
Zhenhua LI	Roche, Sydney, Australia
Xiaoxiao LI	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong SAR, China
Chunli PIAO	Guangzhou University of Chinese Medicine, China
Zhitao REN	Hao Mai Science and Technology, China
Fan TANG	Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, USA
Haiyan TIAN	Jinan University, Guangzhou, China
Liang WANG	BeiGene (Guangzhou) Innovation Technology Co., Ltd. China
Ling WEI	Guangdong Pharmaceutical University, China
Jinghan XU	Guangzhou University of Chinese Medicine, China
Xuanjun YANG	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong SAR, China
Chao YANG	University of Macau, Macau SAR, China
Nan YU	Bayer Healthcare Co. Ltd, China
Huiling YUAN	Zhejiang Chinese Medical University, China
Zhiran ZHAI	Macau University of Science and Technology, Macau SAR, China
Zaijun ZHANG	Jinan University, China
Xia ZHAO	Hangzhou Medical College, China
Chen ZHAO	University of Macau, Macau SAR, China







## New members of GP-TCM RA (July-August 2024)

Student Members		
Karry CHEUNG	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong SAR, China	
Pengxi DENG	University of Macau, Macau SAR, China	
Songrui DI	Beijing University of Chinese Medicine, China	
Peigang FANG	Macau University of Science and Technology, Macau SAR, China	
Yingying GUO	Hubei University of Medicine, China	
Yinting HE	Zhuhai Campus of Zunyi Medical University, China	
Xinyan JIN	Beijing University of Chinese Medicine, China	
Xinyue LENG	University of Macau, Macau SAR, China	
Zhiqiang LI	Beijing University of Chinese Medicine, China	
Yihan LIU	University of Macau, Macau SAR, China	
Qianqian MA	China Pharmaceutical University, China	
Zhijian PAN	Zhuhai Campus of Zunyi Medical University, China	
Jiayue QIU	Macau University of Science and Technology, Macau SAR, China	
Jiayin RUAN	Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong SAR, China	
Kai TONG	Guangdong Pharmaceutical University, China	
Mu Fan TSOU	Tzu Chi University and Academia Sinica, Taiwan	
Yue WANG	Macau University of Science and Technology, Macau SAR, China	
Sihua WANG	Zhuhai Campus of Zunyi Medical University, China	
Yibo ZHAN	Guangzhou University of Chinese Medicine, China	
Yiying ZHU	The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR, China	
Yichen ZHUO	University of Macau, Macau SAR, China	



## Current Corporate Members/ Institutional Members





## **Current Corporate Members**

Dalian Fusheng Natural Medicine Development Co. Ltd., China	大连宫生天然药物开发有限公司 DALIAN FUSHENG NATURAL MEDICINE DEVELOPEMENT 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
Infinitus (China) Company Ltd., China	INFINITUS 无限极
PuraPharm International (H.K.) Ltd., Hong Kong SAR, China	<b>⊘</b> ® Pura <b>Pharm</b>
Shanghai Hutchison Pharmaceuticals, China	Shanghal 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	The state of the s
Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong SAR, China (School of Chinese Medicine)	香港浸會大學 HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY
Shaanxi University of Technology	
The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR, China (Department of Pharmacology and Pharmacy, LKS Faculty of Medicine)	HKU LKS Faculty of Medicine Department of Pharmacology & Pharmacy 香港大學藥理及藥劑學系
Zhejiang Chinese Medical University, China (School of Pharmaceutical Sciences)	
Zhengzhou University of Industrial Technology, China	





The 2nd Forum on China – ASEAN Cooperation in Public Health & Annual Assembly of China – ASEAN University Consortium on Medicine and Health held in Beijing.



在 6 月 25 日举行的"承六合医道·传文明互鉴"——第二届中法医学交流会暨中医药国际化发展研讨会上举行了两场圆桌论坛。上午的论坛由中国中医科学院西苑医院副院长宋坪主持,察哈尔学会秘书长、中联部前西欧局局长、前驻毛里塔尼亚、突尼斯大使张建国,国家卫生健康委科学技术研究所副所长果吉尔锑、中国中医科学院党委常委、副院长李鲲,法国亚眠保罗-克劳岱尔医疗中心主任南达姆博士、法国索邦大学放射学教授奥里维耶·卢斯达姆围绕"新质生产力驱动中医药国际化创新发展"主题进行探讨。



News and photo adapted from QR code below:





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Warm congratulations to Professor De-an GUO, Editor-in-Chief of the English Journal of "World Journal of Traditional Chinese Medicine", for receiving the second prize of the 2023 National Science and Technology Progress Award



果德安研究员领奖

### 项目名称

中药质量检测技术集成创新与支撑体系创建及应用

#### 奖种等级

国家科学技术进步奖二等奖

### 主要完成人

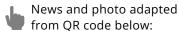
果德安,季申,刘志强,刘艳芳,吴婉莹,李楚源, 穆竟伟,钱勇,宋凤瑞,胡青

#### 主要完成单位

中国科学院上海药物研究所 上海市食品药品检验所 中国科学院长春应用化学研究所 中国科学院大连化学物理研究所 上海诗丹德标准技术服务有限公司 上海凯宝药业股份有限公司 广州白云山和记黄埔中药有限公司

### 项目简介

- 中药质量是决定中医临床疗效和百姓用药安全的核心要素,发展中药质量的创新检测技术和整体解决方案, 形成中药质量的"倒逼机制",对保障并提升中药质量至关重要。项目遵循"发展精准检测技术,推动中 药高质量发展,确保百姓用药安全有效"的宗旨,创新性地构建了中药有效性和安全性导向的中药质量检 测技术体系,创建了中药质量数据库和质量检测技术平台等支撑体系,为百姓安全用药和中药产业高质量 发展提供了强有力的技术支撑和保障。
- 项目围绕实现"中药精准检测"的总体目标,取得以下创新成果: 1) 中药有效性导向的创新检测技术,包括多维多息色谱指纹图谱、多模式质谱分析等创新技术; 2) 中药安全性导向的系列检测技术,包括农药残留、真菌毒素、重金属及有害元素、非法添加化学品及色素等检测技术; 3) 中药质量检测数据库和中药检测技术平台等支撑体系的创建,实现了中药质量有效性和安全性导向的全方位检测与监控,从而推动了中药产业的高质量发展并保障百姓用药安全和有效。
- 构建的中药质量检测系列技术方法被成功收录于《中国药典》,制修订《中国药典》18 项附录通则。构建的技术体系成功应用于痰热清注射液、复方丹参片、复方板蓝根颗粒等中药大品种的检测与质量提升中,使产品的质量大幅提升,应用技术后使这些产品新增销售额近88亿元。该项目为发展中药的有效性和安全性导向的创新性检测技术体系做出了开拓性贡献,并取得了显著的经济效益和社会效益。



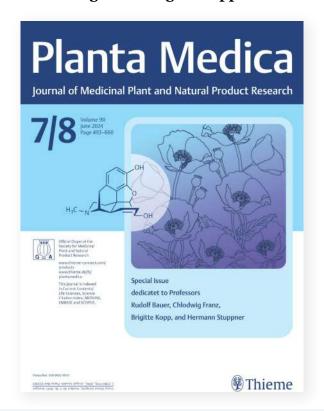






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A new Special Issue of Planta Medica is out! Celebrating the Austrian Pharmacognosy and being dedicated to Rudolf Bauer Chlodwig Franz Brigitte Kopp and Hermann Stuppner



News and photo adapted from link below:

 $https://www.linkedin.com/posts/planta-medica-journal\_plantamedica-letsgrowtogether-activity-7208392988480155648-OsQV-News. In the control of the control o$ 

Please visit the link below for more information:

https://www.thieme-connect.com/products/ejournals/journal/10.1055/s-00000058

vi

China lays out plan to further standardize TCM

On July 31, the State Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine held a press conference on the "Action Plan for Standardizing Traditional Chinese Medicine (2024-2026)" and the progress and effects of standardization work in traditional Chinese medicine.



国家中医药管理局于2024年7月31日(周三)9:30 召开新闻发布会,介绍《中医药标准化行动计划 (2024-2026年)》,以及中医药标准化工作进 展成效有关情况。

News and photo adapted from link below:



Please visit the link below for more information:

https://english.www.gov.cn/news/202408/01/content\_WS66aac3b6c6d0868f4e8e9a32.html





V

Over 3,000 various standards have been established for traditional Chinese medicine in China! A standard system framework suitable for the development of traditional Chinese medicine.

## 已有中医药各类标准 3000 余项! 适合我国中医药发展的标准体系框架已基本建立



文 本报记者 王青云

7月31日,国家中医药管理局召开的新闻发布会介绍,我国已推动发布中医药各类标准3000余项。"近年来,我们紧紧围绕遵循符合中医药发展规律,传承精华、守正创新,形成了以中医药国家标准、行业标准、地方标准、团体标准及中医药国际标准为主要内容的标准体系。"国家中医药管理局政策法规与监督司司长朱桂表示,可以说,适合我国中医药发展的标准体系框架已经基本建立。

朱桂介绍,在中医药国家标准方面,推动市场监管总局已制定中医药推荐性国家标准 77 项,包括《中医病证分类与代码》《中医临床诊疗术语》《针灸学通用术语》等;指导性技术文件 12 项,包括儿科、外科、皮肤科等《中医技术操作规范》。在中医药行业标准方面,已制定中医药行业标准 10 项,包括中医内、外、妇、儿等 9 科《中医病证诊断疗效标准》及其修订通则,涉及中风、眩晕、哮喘等 406 个常见病证。制定中医药团体标准 2500 余项,主要涉及中医、针灸、中药材、种子种苗、信息技术、养生药膳指南等内容。ISO/TC249 已发布中医药国际标准 112 项,包括中医术语类、医疗器械类等内容。各省区市已制定中医药地方标准 1000 余项,涉及中医药临床诊疗、科研管理、服务,中药材种植、生产加工、检验、鉴定、包装等内容。

关于中医药地方标准工作,四川省中医药管理局局长田兴军介绍,中医药的地方标准是由省级的标准化主管部门或者经其批准的市级标准化部门发布的中医药领域标准,是对国家标准完善补充。近年来,通过强化体系建设、加强高位统筹,推动地方中医药标准化已成为四川省各级政府"真心办真心管""各方协力抓"的重要工作。"地方结合各自的中医药禀赋,设立了包括巴药局、麦冬办等特色机构,这些举措有效保证了中医药标准化工作在市县两级'接得住、有人抓'。"田兴军说。

此外,四川省中医药管理局统筹设立中医药的标准化研究专项,累计投入经费超过 2000 万元,制定发布了 ISO 国际标准 2 项、国家标准 8 项、省级地方标准 36 项。

News and photo adapted from link below:





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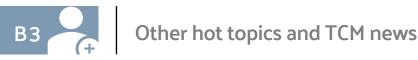
Research team lead by Prof. Lixing Zhuang from the The First Hospital Affiliated to Guangzhou University of Chinese Medicine recently published an article on JAMA Network Open.

# IF 10.5, JAMA 子刊《JAMA Network Open》发表针刺改善帕金森患者睡眠质量临床研究新证据

原创 Frontiers-CMCR 中医药研究前沿 2024年06月28日 10:10



News and photo adapted from link below:







Research team of Prof. Xinli Li and Prof. Haifeng Zhang from the First Affiliated Hospital of Nanjing MedicalUniversity recently publish an article on Natural Medcine.

### Nature 子刊(IF 58.7): 芪苈强心胶囊治疗心力衰竭的临床研究

原创 Frontiers-CMCR 中医药研究前沿 2024年08月03日 18:44

#### nature medicine

南京医科大学第一附属医院<mark>李新立、张海锋教授团队</mark> 于2024年8月2日

在国际顶级医学期刊《Nature Medicine》 (IF: 58.7) 上

发表中医学研究论文 (RCT):

《The traditional Chinese medicine Qiliqiangxin in heart failure with reduced ejection fraction: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial》

芪苈强心胶囊对慢性心衰复合终点事件的评估研究: 一项随机、双盲、安慰剂对照试验

### nature medicine

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Article Open access | Published: 02 August 2024

The traditional Chinese medicine Qiliqiangxin in heart failure with reduced ejection fraction: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial

News and photo adapted from link below:







Research team of Prof. Xinli Li and Prof. Haifeng Zhang from the First Affiliated Hospital of Nanjing Medical University recently publish an article on Natural Medcine.

#### **News & views**

Cardiovascular diseases

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-024-03135-y

# Integrating traditional and modern medicines to treat heart failure

#### Zhuang Tian & Shuyang Zhang

Check for updates

A large clinical trial supports the incorporation of qiliqiangxin, a traditional Chinese medicine, into standard treatment regimens for heart failure – highlighting a promising integration of ancient wisdom with modern medical practices through rigorous science.

Despite substantial advances in the treatment of heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (HFrEF) through therapies that have improved survival rates, challenges remain, such as inadequate patient responses, adverse effects, and disease progression. Consequently, there is a need for ongoing research and the development of new agents to further enhance outcomes. The confluence of traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) and modern pharmacology is gaining unprecedented attention in the landscape of cardiovascular medicine, as researchers seek to address these unmet needs. In this issue of *Nature Medicine*, Cheang et al. <sup>1</sup> report the results of a robust clinical trial evaluating qiliqiangxin (QLQX) capsules – a TCM compound – in the management of HFrEF. This landmark study affirms the efficacy and safety of QLQX, and hints at an integrative approach that blends centuries-old wisdom with contemporary scientific rigor.

QLQX is a commercialized TCM formulation comprising a blend of 11 selected plant ingredients, including compounds such as a stragaloside IV, tanshinone IIA and ginsenosides. These ingredients have structural similarities to diterpenoids and triterpenoids, known to influence cardiovascular health by modulating nutrient-sensing pathways². There is a potential overlap in the mechanisms of action of QLQX and of contemporary treatments for heart failure, such as sodium–glucose cotransporter 2 (SGIT2) inhibitors. Both QLQX and SGIT2 inhibitors appear to modulate the PGC-1 $\alpha$ -RXR $\alpha$ -PPAR $\alpha$  signaling pathway³, which is crucial for metabolism and energy utilization in heart cells. These parallels hint at a broader therapeutic paradigm combining traditional and modern medical insights.

The decision to conduct a large-scale trial of QLQX was driven by the promising effects on heart function and symptoms observed in smaller studies. To validate these findings and fully understand the benefits and safety profile of this compound, a large and rigorous clinical trial was warranted. The trial reported by Cheang et al., conducted from May 2019 to July 2022 across 133 hospitals in China, stands out as the first of its kind – a double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled exploration of the capabilities of TCM for chronic heart failure. With the participation of 3,110 individuals who met stringent criteria, this research sought to definitively establish whether QLQX could offer tangible benefits over standard therapies.

The results are impressive. The primary endpoint – a composite of cardiovascular death and hospitalization for heart failure –



significantly favored OLOX over placebo (both administered alongside standard heart-failure therapy). Specifically, that event rate was 25.02% for those receiving QLQX and 30.03% in the placebo cohort, translating to a hazard ratio (HR) of 0.78 (95% confidence interval (CI) 0.68–0.90; P < 0.001). Moreover, QLQX demonstrated notable  $efficacy\,in\,reducing\,hospitalizations\,for\,heart\,failure\,(15.63\%\,versus)$ 19.16%: HR 0.76: P = 0.002) and cardiovascular death (13.31% versus 15.95%; HR 0.83; P = 0.045). Although the difference in all-cause mortality was not statistically significant (HR 0.84; P = 0.058), these findings collectively underscore the potential clinical advantages of incorporating QLQX into conventional treatment regimens. One major concern with combined treatments is the potential for increased adverse events, but Cheang et al. found no new safety signals with the combination of OLOX and standard heart-failure treatment, alleviating safety concerns and supporting its use as a complementary therapy.

What makes these findings particularly noteworthy is the rigorous design of the clinical trial. The design mirrors that of the landmark PARADIGM-HF study. Which evaluated the combination of sacubitril and valsartan (an angiotensin receptor/neprilysin inhibitor) against enalapril (an angiotensin-converting-enzyme inhibitor) in individuals with HFrEF. Both studies used stringent enrollment criteria and robust randomization to ensure high-quality evidence regarding the intervention's impact on HFrEF outcomes.

The broader implications of this research extend beyond QLQX itself. Cheang et al. sets a high bar for future investigations into traditional medicines, highlighting the potential of these age-old remedies when subjected to modern scientific scrutiny. It also demonstrates a promising pathway for validating and incorporating traditional medicines into mainstream healthcare, which could dramatically expand

DIT: CVNTHIA LEE / ALAMY STOCK PHOT

nature medicine

Volume 30 | August 2024 | 2129-2130 | 2129

This paper on Qiliqiangxin is also highlighted by Nat Med News & Views, entitled "Integrating traditional and modern medicines to treat heart failure".

Details below:

https://www.nature.com/articles/s41591-024-03135-y





i

## The traditional Chinese medicine Qiliqiangxin in heart failure with reduced ejection fraction: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial

Journal: Nature Medicine

Detail: https://www.nature.com/articles/s41591-024-03169-2

DOI: https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-024-03169-2

#### nature medicine



Article

https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-024-03169-2

## The traditional Chinese medicine Qiliqiangxin in heart failure with reduced ejection fraction: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial

Received: 28 November 2023

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A list of authors and their affiliations appears at the end of the paper

Previous findings have indicated the potential benefits of the Chinese traditional medicine Qiliqiangxin (QLQX) in heart failure. Here we performed a double-blind, randomized controlled trial to evaluate the efficacy and safety of QLQX in patients with heart failure and reduced ejection fraction (HFrEF). This multicenter trial, conducted in 133 hospitals in China, enrolled 3,110 patients with HFrEF with NT-proBNP levels of  $\geq$ 450 pg ml<sup>-1</sup> and left ventricular ejection fraction of  $\leq$ 40%. Participants  $were \, randomized \, to \, receive \, either \, QLQX \, capsules \, or \, placebo \, (four \, capsules \, or \, placebo \, or \, placebo \, (four \, capsules \, or \, placebo \, or \, placebo \, or \, placebo \, (four \, capsules \, or \, placebo \, or \, place$ three times daily) alongside standard heart failure therapy. The trial met its primary outcome, which was a composite of hospitalization for heart failure and cardiovascular death: over a median follow-up of 18.3 months, the primary outcome occurred in 389 patients (25.02%) in the QLQX group and 467 patients (30.03%) in the placebo group (hazard ratio (HR), 0.78; 95% confidence interval (CI), 0.68-0.90; P < 0.001). In an analysis of  $secondary\ outcomes, the\ QLQX\ group\ showed\ reductions\ in\ both$ hospitalization for heart failure (15.63% versus 19.16%; HR, 0.76; 95% CI, 0.64-0.90; P = 0.002) and cardiovascular death (13.31% versus 15.95%; HR, 0.83; 95% CI, 0.68–0.996; P = 0.045) compared to the placebo group. All-cause mortality did not differ significantly between the two groups (HR, 0.84; 95% CI, 0.70-1.01; P = 0.058) and adverse events were also comparable between the groups. The results of this trial indicate that QLQX may improve clinical outcomes in patients with HFrEF when added to conventional therapy. ChiCTR registration: ChiCTR1900021929.

Heart failure is a prevalent medical condition affecting approximately 64.3 million individuals worldwide, with over 6 million cases reported in the USA and 13 million in China  $^{1,2}$ . Despite the availability of life-saving guideline-directed medical therapy (GDMT) for heart failure with reduced ejection fraction (HFrEF), patients have a poor 5-year survival rate with an elevated risk of cardiovascular and heart failure admission  $^{1,4}$ . Existing drugs may not effectively prevent disease progression in all patients. Ongoing research and development efforts

 $aim \, to \, address \, the \, unmet \, needs \, in \, heart \, failure \, treatment \, and \, improve \, patient \, outcomes.$ 

Traditional Chinese medicine (TCM), a major subdiscipline of complementary medicine, has increased in popularity in both Asian and Western countries in the past few decades and has the potential to supplement current therapies for the management of chronic heart failure. The incomplete relief of symptoms, adverse effects of medication and individual variability in response all highlight the need for

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Nature Medicine







## Acupuncture and Sleep Quality Among Patients With Parkinson Disease - A Randomized Clinical Trial

### Journal: JAMA Network Open

Detail: https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2820371

DOI: 10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2024.17862





Original Investigation | Complementary and Alternative Medicine

### Acupuncture and Sleep Quality Among Patients With Parkinson Disease A Randomized Clinical Trial

Mingyue Yan, PhD; Jingqi Fan, PhD; Xin Liu, PhD; Yingjia Li, MM; Yuting Wang, PhD; Weiqiang Tan, PhD; Yuanyuan Chen, MM; Jun He, PhD; Lixing Zhuang, MM, PhD

#### **Abstract**

**IMPORTANCE** Poor sleep quality greatly impairs quality of life and accelerates deterioration in patients with Parkinson disease (PD), but current remedies remain limited. Acupuncture, used as an adjunctive therapy with anti-Parkinson medications, has shown positive effects in patients with PD. However, high-quality clinical evidence to support the effectiveness of acupuncture for patients with PD and poor sleep quality is lacking.

**OBJECTIVE** To assess the safety and efficacy of real acupuncture (RA) vs sham acupuncture (SA) as an adjunctive therapy for patients with PD who have poor sleep quality.

**DESIGN, SETTING, AND PARTICIPANTS** This single-center randomized clinical trial was performed at The First Affiliated Hospital of Guangzhou University of Chinese Medicine in China from February 18, 2022, to February 18, 2023. Patients with PD and sleep complaints were recruited and randomized (1:1) to receive RA or SA treatment for 4 weeks. Data analysis was performed from April 12 to August 17, 2023.

INTERVENTION Treatment with RA or SA for 4 weeks.

MAIN OUTCOMES AND MEASURES The main outcome was the change in Parkinson Disease Sleep Scale (PDSS) scores measured at baseline, after 4 weeks of treatment, and at 8 weeks of follow-up.

**RESULTS** Of the 83 participants enrolled, 78 (94.0%) completed the intervention and were included in the analysis. Their mean (SD) age was 64.1 (7.9) years; 41 (52.6%) were men and 37 (47.4%) were women. A significant increase in PDSS scores from baseline was observed for both the RA group (29.65 [95% CI, 24.65-34.65]; P < .001) and the SA group (10.47 [95% CI, 5.35-15.60]; P < .001). Compared with the SA group, the RA group had a significant increase in PDSS scores after 4 weeks of treatment (19.75 [95% CI, 11.02-28.49]; P < .001) and at 8 weeks of follow-up (20.24 [95% CI, 11.51-28.98]; P < .001).

**CONCLUSIONS AND RELEVANCE** In this randomized clinical trial, acupuncture proved beneficial in improving sleep quality and quality of life among patients with PD. These findings suggest that the therapeutic effects of acupuncture could continue for up to 4 weeks.

TRIAL REGISTRATION Chinese Clinical Trial Registry Identifier: ChiCTR2200060655

JAMA Network Open. 2024;7(6):e2417862. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2024.17862

#### Key Point

**Question** What is the efficacy of acupuncture in treating patients with Parkinson disease (PD) who have poor sleep quality?

Findings In this randomized clinical trial of 78 patients, those randomly assigned to receive real acupuncture (RA) vs sham acupuncture (SA) for 4 weeks had a statistically significant improvement in Parkinson Disease Sleep Scale scores compared with baseline. This improvement persisted for 4 weeks posttreatment in the RA group but not in the SA group.

Meaning These findings suggest that acupuncture combined with the standard of care may improve sleep quality among patients with PD.

- + Visual Abstract
- + Supplemental content

Author affiliations and article information are listed at the end of this article.

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JAMA Network Open. 2024;7(6):e2417862. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2024.17862

June 26, 2024 1/12

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### Electroacupuncture Promotes Liver Regeneration by Activating DMV Acetylcholinergic Neurons-Vagus-Macrophage Axis in 70% Partial Hepatectomy of Mice

Detail: https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/advs.202402856

DOI: https://doi.org/10.1002/advs.202402856

#### RESEARCH ARTICLE



### **Electroacupuncture Promotes Liver Regeneration by Activating DMV Acetylcholinergic** Neurons-Vagus-Macrophage Axis in 70% Partial **Hepatectomy of Mice**

Liu Yang, Yanyu Zhou, Zhaoshuai Huang, Wenxuan Li, Jiacheng Lin, Weifan Huang, Yali Sang, Fang Wang, Xuehua Sun, Jiangang Song,\* Hailong Wu,\* and Xiaoni Kong\*

Lack of liver regenerative capacity is the primary cause of hepatic failure and even mortality in patients undergoing hepatectomy, with no effective intervention strategies currently available. Therefore, identifying efficacious interventions to enhance liver regeneration is pivotal for optimizing clinical outcomes. Recent studies have demonstrated that vagotomy exerts an inhibitory effect on liver regeneration following partial hepatectomy, thereby substantiating the pivotal role played by the vagus nerve in the process of liver regeneration. In recent years, electroacupuncture (EA) has emerged as a non-invasive technique for stimulating the vagus nerve. However, EA on hepatic regeneration remains uncertain. In this study, a 70% partial hepatectomy (PH) mouse model is utilized to investigate the effects of EA on acute liver regeneration and elucidate its underlying molecular mechanisms. It is observed that EA at ST36 acutely activated cholinergic neurons in the dorsal motor nucleus of the vagus nerve (DMV), resulting in increased release of acetylcholine from hepatic vagal nerve endings and subsequent activation of IL-6 signaling in liver macrophages. Ultimately, these events promoted hepatocyte proliferation and facilitated liver regeneration. These findings provide insights into the fundamental brain-liver axis mechanism through which EA promotes liver regeneration, offering a novel therapeutic approach for post-hepatectomy liver regeneration disorders.

#### 1. Introduction

The liver exhibits an extraordinary regenerative capacity, and in response to hepatic tissue loss caused by toxins or partial surgical resection, the remaining hepatocytes undergo substantial proliferation to restore the original weight and functionality of the liver.<sup>[1]</sup> Given that China still faces a high prevalence of liver disease with a significant number of patients, liver resection and transplantation continue to be the primary treatment modalities for endstage liver disease.[2] Despite the robust regenerative capacity of the liver, there exists a considerable proportion of patients with poor prognosis due to impaired regenerative ability, leading to liver failure and even mortality. For instance, in cases where acute (e.g., acetaminophen) or chronic insults (e.g., hepatitis B virus, hepatitis C virus, or non-alcoholic fatty liver disease) damage the liver, its regenerative potential is greatly diminished.[3] Therefore, identifying an effective intervention strategy to promote liver regeneration is crucial for improving clinical outcomes.

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2402856 (1 of 17)

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



### Journal: Frontiers in Pharmacology

### Potential therapeutic effects of traditional Chinese medicine in acute mountain sickness: pathogenesis, mechanisms and future directions

Detail: https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/pharmacology/articles/10.3389/fphar.2024.1393209/full

## Ferroptosis: a new mechanism of traditional Chinese medicine for treating ulcerative colitis

Detail: https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/pharmacology/articles/10.3389/fphar.2024.1379058/full

## The therapeutic effect of traditional Chinese medicine on breast cancer through modulation of the Wnt/β-catenin signaling pathway

Detail: https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/pharmacology/articles/10.3389/fphar.2024.1401979/full

Efficacy and safety of traditional Chinese medicine decoction as an adjuvant treatment for diabetic nephropathy: a systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials

Detail: https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/pharmacology/articles/10.3389/fphar.2024.1327030/full





2024

Sep. 20-22

# 中华中医药学会中药实验药理分会 2024 年学术年会



Date: 20-22/09/2024

Location: Chengdu, China

Registration:

https://mp.weixin.gg.com/s/-|GVhulgbMncyenABNf|fw

Detail:

https://www.cacm.org.cn/2024/07/26/29382/

2024 Sep. 27-29 The 13th Annual Academic Conference and Re-election Conference of the World Federation of Chinese Medicine Analysis Professional Committee and the International Academic Conference on Analysis of Traditional Chinese Medicine.



Date: 27-29/09/2024

Location:

Zhongshan, Guangdong, China

Registration:

https://24992.sciconf.cn/cn/web/index/24992

Detail

http://www.wfcms.org/show/11/7075.html

https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/OSm82vckxfj20q9m-D3FgA





## Journal: Frontiers in Pharmacology \* frontiers



Topic	Prevention and Treatment of Infectious Diseases by Herbal Medicine
Deadline	27 September 2024
Details	https://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/63582/prevention-and-treatment-of-infectious-diseases-by-herbal-medicine
Editor(s)	Quansheng Feng Professor, Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Chengdu, China  Marcello Iriti University of Milan, Milan, Italy  Qingquan Liu Professor, Beijing Hospital of Traditional Chinese Medicine,
	Capital Medical University, Beijing, China



## Journal: Frontiers in Pharmacology \* frontiers



Topic	Topic: Herbal Medicines and Their Metabolites: Effects on Lipid Metabolic Disorders via Modulating Oxidative Stress - Volume II
Deadline	Manuscript Submission Deadline 28 October 2024
Details	https://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/64321/herbal-medicines-and-their-metabolites-effects-on-lipid-metabolic-disorders-via-modulating-oxidative-stressvolume-ii
Editor(s)	Wei Peng Associate Professor, School of Pharmacy, Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Chengdu, China
	Adolfo Andrade-Cetto Post-Doctorate, National Autonomous University of Mexico, México City, Mexico
	Yongmei Xie State Key Laboratory of Biotherapy and Cancer Center, West China Hospital, Sichuan University and Collaborative Innovation Center of Biotherapy, Chengdu, China
	<b>Qing Zhang</b> Post Doctoral Researcher, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, United States





## Journal: Frontiers in Pharmacology \* frontiers



Topic	Topic: Plant-derived Therapeutics and Traditional Medicine: Innovations, Challenges, and Opportunities in Breast Cancer Treatment
Deadline	Manuscript Submission Deadline 31 January 2025
Details	https://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/62393/plant-derived-therapeutics-and-traditional-medicine-innovations-challenges-and-opportunities-in-breast-cancer-treatment
5	Xinli Liang Associate Professor, Key Laboratory of the Education Ministry for Modern TCM Preparation, Jiangxi University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Nanchang, China
Editor(s)	Chen Chen Professor, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia
	Le SHI Assistant Professor, Nanjing University of Chinese Medicine, Nanjing, China



## Journal: Frontiers in Pharmacology \* frontiers



Topic	Traditional Medicines in the Treatment of Infectious Diseases – Challenges and advances
Deadline	Manuscript Submission Deadline 15 December 2024
Details	https://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/63488/traditional-medicines-in-the-treatment-of-infectious-diseaseschallenges-and-advances
Editor(s)	Shanshan Guo Professor, Institute of Chinese Materia Medica, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences, Beijing, China  Wolf Dieter Rausch Associate Professor, University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna, Vienna, Austria  Zifeng Yang Professor, Guangzhou Institute of Respiratory Health, Guangzhou, China  Youhua Xu
	Doctorate, Macau University of Science and Technology, Taipa, Macao, SAR China

## Resources: Journal: call for papers

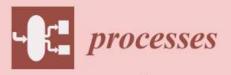




### 



Topic	Special Issue "2nd Edition of Natural Products for Drug Discovery and Development"
Deadline	28 February 2025
Details	https://www.mdpi.com/journal/processes/special_issues/W6FNK2G2HH
Editor(s)	Dr. Antony Kam  Dr. Shining Loo  Prof. Simon Ming-Yuen Lee







an Open Access Journal by MDPI

2nd Edition of Natural Products for Drug Discovery and Development

### **Guest Editors**

Dr. Antony Kam, Dr. Shining Loo, Prof. Dr. Lee Simon Ming-Yuen

### Deadline

28 February 2025

**Special**sue





## Visiting scholar and Master of Medicine program in Hubei University of Medicine (HBUM)

## Welcome to join Prof. Xuanbin WANG's lab

#### About HBUM

Hubei University of Medicine, located at Shiyan in central China, is a medical school committed to nurturing healthcare professionals, integrating medicine with the disciplines of science, engineering and administration. Founded in 1965, the University has more than 120,000 alumni around the world. The university offers a wide range of programs across 18 schools covering more than 40 major areas of study. It has 1,027 full-time faculty, of whom 862 are master supervisors, 380 hold senior titles, and 215 hold doctoral degrees. It has an enrollment of 16,878 full-time undergraduate students. 1,665 postgraduate students, and 460 international students. It has the largest number of medical undergraduates in Hubei Province, and ranks Top 1 in undergraduate medical education among Hubei provincial-level universities.

The 6 affiliated hospitals are all Class A Tertiary Hospitals (the highest rating in China), with over 15,000 beds, 10 million out-patients, 0.5 million in-patients annually. Clinical Medicine is the top 3‰ in the global ESI ranking, while Pharmacology and Toxicology is the top 1%. The University has established close ties with over 30 universities and research institutions abroad in over 10 countries and regions, with program of student exchange, visiting scholars, expert lecturing, etc.

Hubei University of Medicine offers visiting research assistant (RA) and Master of Medicine (MM) programs for international students. A successful MM thesis should represent the result of the candidate's research which displays some originality and which demonstrates a sound understanding in the field of study and the appropriate research methods, and worthy of publication.



## **Postgraduate Opportunities**



#### About Prof. Xuanbin WANG's lab

Prof. Xuanbin WANG's lab, founded in 2007, focuses on Chinese medicines/natural products against diseases, especially cancers. He is also interested in Wudang Taoist folk medicine. Now, he has been granted more than 50 fundings from nation, province and university. He published 152 papers and wrote 12 books including 5 text books, such as Pharmacology of Chinese medicines (Chinese version and English version), Clinical Pharmacology (English version), Pharmacology (Chinese version), and Toxicology of Chinese Medicines (Chinese version).

To push the internationalization and modernization of Chinese medicine as well as Wudang folk medicine, Prof. Wang's group collaborate with experts from Germany, British, Belgium, Netherlands, Russia, Korea, Japan, Span, and Austria.



### Scholarship and allowance

1,000 CNY per month allowance will be provided to RAs and MMs in Prof. WANG's group. RAs have priority opportunity to apply for MM as well as scholarship in the university.



### Admission requirement

Bachelor's degree of Medicine, Surgery, Pharmacy, Pharmacology, Traditional Chinese medicine, and related disciplines. Chinese Language Proficiency Test: HSK3.

#### Research fields

Including but not limit in Pharmacy, Pharmacology, Chinese medicines and Wudang Taoist folk medicine.



## Enquiries



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# Online tools for finding a PhD program around the world



The following are PhD searching platforms designed to assist prospective PhD students in finding and applying for doctoral programs. These platforms not only list PhD opportunities but also offer valuable tips on the application process, funding options, and life as a PhD student. You can refine your search with filters for country, subject (ex. Herbal medicine, Pharmacology, ...), and institution to find programs that best match your interests. Good luck with your search!

FindAPhD: <a href="https://www.findaphd.com/">https://www.findaphd.com/</a>

PhD Portal:
<a href="https://www.phdportal.com/">https://www.phdportal.com/</a>

Academic Positions : <a href="https://academicpositions.com/jobs/position/phd">https://academicpositions.com/jobs/position/phd</a>

ScholarshipDb.net: <a href="https://scholarshipdb.net/">https://scholarshipdb.net/</a>

**Networking** is a crucial aspect for researchers. Here are the top networking sites widely used in the scientific community abroad. Enjoy connecting with new people!

LinkedIn: <a href="https://linkedin.com/">https://linkedin.com/</a>

To make the most of LinkedIn, start by creating an engaging profile that showcases your professional/academic achievements. Regularly update your connections with your latest scientific breakthroughs to keep them informed of your progress. If you don't know where to start, follow these pages that repost PhD and post-doctoral position openings.

jobRxiv

Jobs4Biotech: Mainly posts research opportunities in France.

Research Gate:
<a href="https://www.researchgate.net/">https://www.researchgate.net/</a>

Academia.edu: <a href="https://www.academia.edu/">https://www.academia.edu/</a>

• ORCID: <a href="https://orcid.org/">https://orcid.org/</a>





# Postgraduate Opportunities

### Opportunities in Europe

### Belgium

PhD Study in Belgium – A Guide for 2024 | FindAPhD.com is a guide to understand the PhD in Belgium and to find one.

https://www.findaphd.com/guides/phd-study-in-belgium

161 PhD jobs in Belgium - Academic Positions is to find PhD opportunities in Belgium.

https://academicpositions.com/jobs/position/phd/country/belgium

University of Mons (UMONS): Select a PhD/Post-Doc topic - Université de Mons (umons.ac.be) is to find a PhD or a Post-Doc in UMONS.

• The ProtMic Research Group is hiring a full-time post-doc in the field of renewable sources of plant biostimulation and the cyanobacteria

https://web.umons.ac.be/en/recherche/le-doctorat/search-a-thesis-topic/

### Opportunities at the De Duve Institute:

https://www.deduveinstitute.be/fr/jobs

Professor Zhu JingJing's lab which focuses on pioneering advancements in tumor immunotherapy, including novel targets, improved delivery methods, and uncovering resistance mechanisms is looking for

- 1 PhD student and 1 Post-doctoral student in immunity and cancer (4 years)
- 1 Bioinformatician (3 years)
- Professor Tyteca Donatienne's lab which studies how plasma membrane lipid distribution and biophysical properties control cell deformation in physiology and pathology is looking for
- 1 Post-doctoral student in Mechanobiology in Cancer
- Professor Charles De Smet's lab which studies the consequences and causes of genetic alterations in cancer is looking for
- 1 PhD student and 1 Postdoctoral student in Epigenetics and Proteomics.



#### France

PhD in France - Subjects (PhD, Master's & Postdoc training) (campusfrance.org) is to find a PhD in France https://doctorat.campusfrance.org/en/phd/offers

### Switzerland

52 Postdoc jobs in Switzerland - Academic Positions https://academicpositions.com/jobs/position/post-doc/country/switzerland





### **Zhejiang University School of Medicine** is looking for 2 post-doctoral students

#### **Recruitment conditions**

- 1. Have a doctor's degree, generally no more than 35 years old;
- 2. Have solid professional theoretical knowledge and innovation consciousness, good scientific ethics and rigorous scientific attitude, and strong self-motivated;
- 3. Have good communication skills and teamwork spirit, and have the ability to work independently;
- 4. Have good English reading, writing, listening, speaking and communication skills;
- 5. Proficient in molecular biology experimental technology, with research experience in mouse experimental animals is preferred;
- 6. Major in bioinformatics and experience in multi-group big data analysis are preferred;
- 7. Research experience in kidney disease, liver disease or cardiovascular disease is preferred;
- 8. Publish academic papers in internationally renowned journals, showing good academic development potential, and publishing high-level first-author papers is preferred;

If you meet the requirements of the recruitment position and are interested, please send your resume, 2 letters of recommendation and relevant information to fwang@zju.edu.cn, and the subject of the email is "postdoctoral application + cooperative tutor's name + name".

#### Research direction



- i. Iron death and tumor, heart disease and liver and kidney disease;
- ii. Tumor and metabolic molecular mechanism;
- iii. Molecular mechanism of immunity and metabolism;
- iv. The molecular mechanism of human aging and longevity.

### Contact information

Contact: Professor Wang Fudi

Tel: 186 2130 6999

E-mail: fwang@zju.edu.cn

Address: C155, Research Building, Medical School of Zhejiang University (Zijingang Campus)





# The ProtMic Research Group at University of Mons is looking for a full-time post-doc in the field of renewable sources of plant biostimulation and the cyanobacteria.

The PostDoc researcher will be part of an academic-research centres-industrial consortium working on a portfolio of PHENIX\_Biocontrol projects aimed at developing new biostimulants or control agents. ProtMic's contribution will be to characterise the associated microbiomes using metaproteomic and metagenomic approaches, and to study and develop bioactive combinations between polysaccharides from microalgae and other types of biostimulants.

### Profile and requirements

- 1. You hold a PhD degree in biology, biochemistry, bioscience engineering, agronomy or agricultural engineering, (bio)chemical engineering, or equivalent applied sciences.
- 2. You have demonstrable experience in plant biology and microbiology. Having an experience with analytical methods is a plus.
- 3. You have co-authored papers in which quantitative sustainability assessments have been performed.
- 4. You have an experience in working on plant biostimulation. Candidates with a background in and focus on technology transitions in sustainable agri-food chains and agrotechnology is appreciated.
- 5. You are the first author of papers published in journals indexed by Web of Science.
- 6. You have outstanding oral and written communication skills in English.
- 7. You have excellent interpersonal skills to collaborate constructively and respectfully with scientific team members and with BSc/MSc students.
- 8. Your research qualities are in line with the faculty and university research policies.

#### We offer



- 1. A post-doctoral scholarship for a period of one year, with the possibility of renewal (2 times) after positive evaluation.
- 2. The planned start date is October 1 st, 2024, or as soon as possible.
- 3. You will do most of your work at the sciences campus in a stimulating and flexible working environment, encouraging creativity and independent thinking, in a dynamic, and international setting.
- 4. The opportunity to build a broad national and international network of industrial and scientific partners, and to develop new personal competencies through professional training moments, courses and workshops;
- 5. 5.The possibility to tutor and co-supervise BSc, MSc and PhD students working on your research topic, and engage with colleague researchers in joint research and publication efforts.
- 6. The chance to make a difference, and personally contribute to answer to urgent societal challenges.

Interested in this vacancy? Please send your motivational letter and your CV at Ruddy. Wattiez@umons.ac.be by August 30.

#### Save the dates:

Interviews will take place in two rounds, with a first short interview on 30 August 2024 (morning, CET), ideally in person, but remote attendance can be accommodated, and successful applicants will be invited for an in-depth second interview on 17 September 2024 (morning, CET), on site.





# Freely Accessible Learning Material

Interesting articles

An Introduction to Statistics: Choosing the Correct Statistical Test (ijccm.org):

This article provides a comprehensive overview of the myriad factors that influence the choice of a statistical test and identifies several statistical tests that are commonly utilized in practical application.?

https://www.ijccm.org/doi/pdf/10.5005/jp-journals-10071-23815

How Can Early Career Researchers Be More Involved With Scientific Societies?

• https://www.enago.com/academy/how-can-early-career-researchers-be-more-involved-with-scientific-societies/

Writing a scientific article: A step-by-step guide for beginners - ScienceDirect: A guide for beginner to write a scientific article

https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1878764915001606

# Freely Accessible Learning Material

Online learning Platforms

Functional Metabolomics Lab - YouTube : YouTube channel that upload summer schools, seminars and workshops on Metabolomics

https://www.youtube.com/@functionalmetabolomics/videos

(Galaxy Training! (galaxyproject.org)): A platform designed for on-site education and training in bioinformatics, omics, and other related areas is available.

Link to Galaxy (<u>usegalaxy.eu</u>) which is a scientific workflow, data integration, and persistence and publishing platform for computational biology. It aims to provide research scientists who do not have programming experience with access to computational biology. The platform offers a multi-omics treatment solution.







# Freely Accessible Learning Material

Online learning Platforms

# AI tips and tools



Mushtaq Bilal, PhD (@MushtaqBilalPhD) / X (twitter.com) : Al tips, tutorals and tools to simplify the academic writing process.

https://twitter.com/MushtaqBilalPhD

Ilya Shabanov (@Artifexx) / X (twitter.com) : The Effortless Academic: Tools, Note-Taking Strategies and AI tutorials for the modern academic.

https://twitter.com/artifexx

Asad Naveed (@dr\_asadnaveed) / X: Posts on research, academia & Al.

https://x.com/dr\_asadnaveed

Dissertation Writing Service I Dissertation Coach (@drfred\_phd) / X (twitter.com) : Provides personalized help for research proposal, article and thesis writing and posts relatable memes on PhD life.

# Useful tools/databases for natural products datamining

### NP Atlas (www.npatlas.org)

- Database for compounds found in microorganisms (bacteria, fungi, etc...)
- From a compound, it is possible to visualize the network(s) to which it belongs.
- SNAP-MS: Import a .csv or .graphML file to annotate molecules through searches in NP Atlas or COCONUT.
- Reference: Jeffrey A van Santen, Ella F Poynton, Dasha Iskakova, Emily McMann, Tyler A Alsup, Trevor N Clark, Claire H Fergusson, David P Fewer, Alison H Hughes, Caitlin A McCadden, Jonathan Parra, Sylvia Soldatou, Jeffrey D Rudolf, Elisabeth M-L Janssen, Katherine R Duncan, Roger G Linington, The Natural Products Atlas 2.0: a database of microbially-derived natural products, Nucleic Acids Research, Volume 50, Issue D1, 7 January 2022, Pages D1317– D1323

https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/gkab941

### CMAUP - (CMAUP - Collective Molecular Activities of Useful Plants (bidd.group))

- Find species on the world map
- Identify the proteins targeted by the compounds of a species
- Find the compounds described in a species
- Find the plants of a specific country
- Find the uses of the plant (medicinal, food, ornamental, agricultural, etc.)
- Reference: Dongyue Hou, Hanbo Lin, Yuhan Feng, Kaicheng Zhou, Xingxiu Li, Yuan Yang, Shuaiqi Wang, Xue Yang, Jiayu Wang, Hui Zhao, Xuyao Zhang, Jiajun Fan, SongLin Lu, Dan Wang, Lyuhan Zhu, Dianwen Ju, Yu Zong Chen, Xian Zeng, CMAUP database update 2024: extended functional and association information of useful plants for biomedical research, Nucleic Acids Research, Volume 52, Issue D1, 5 January 2024, Pages D1508–D1518,

https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/gkad921





# International Conferences

Conference information



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

Top 43123 Conferences, Conference Alerts 2024-2025, Conference 2024-2025, Conferences 2024-2025 (worldconferencealerts.com)

https://www.worldconferencealerts.com/

# 2024 Conference Main (acupunctureresearch.org)

https://www.acupunctureresearch.org/conference

# Home | Meghaz Meetings

https://www.meghazmeetings.com/iestam-2024/

### Traditional Chinese Medicine Conferences 2024/2025/2026 (conferenceindex.org

https://conferenceindex.org/conferences/traditional-chinese-medicine







## Apply for a grant in Europe

ERC starting grant: is for early-career scientists with 2-7 years of experience after completion of PhD.

More information at



Details: <a href="https://erc.europa.eu/apply-grant/starting-grant">https://erc.europa.eu/apply-grant/starting-grant</a>



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions: supported by the European Commission, MSCA proposes various fellowships to support research and innovation through the development of human resources.

More information at



Details: https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/

Euraxess - Belgium: Where you can find different funding opportunities for doctoral, postdoctoral, early career or internship in Belgium.

More information at



Details: https://www.euraxess.be/belgium/jobs-funding

### **Education program opportunities**





香港浸會大學 HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY







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

https://scm.hkbu.edu.hk/en/education/research-postgraduate. Details:



### 香港中文大學中醫學院

School of Chinese Medicine Chinese University of Hong Kong





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

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



澳門大學 UNIVERSIDADE DE MACAU



中藥質量研究國家重點實驗室(澳門大學)

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





Doctor of Philosophy in Biomedical Sciences Institute of Chinese Medical Sciences, University of Macau

Details: https://sklgrcm.um.edu.mo/ycmdbs/





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





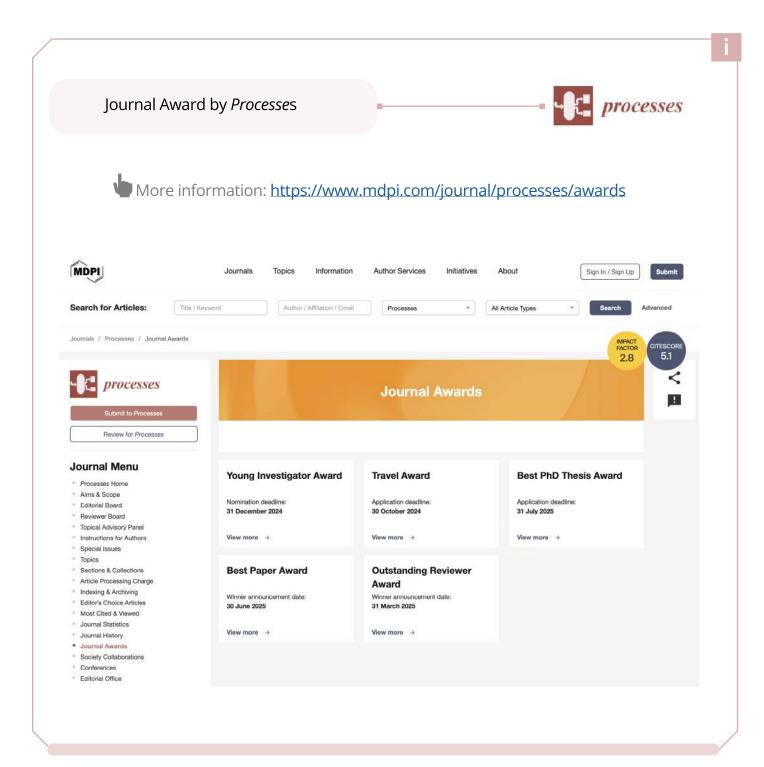
PhD in Chinese Medicine School of Chinese Medicine, The University of Hong Kong

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



## More information for students or young scholars









### **Bi-monthly meme**

Vote the first "Bi-monthly meme" here:



Which one is your favourite?



AND THE WINNER FOR THE LAST BI-MONTHLY MEME IS...

Just me and my to do list ready to take on the day.

MEMEI



My email is well written, reviewed and ready to be sent

My email is sent

MEME 2



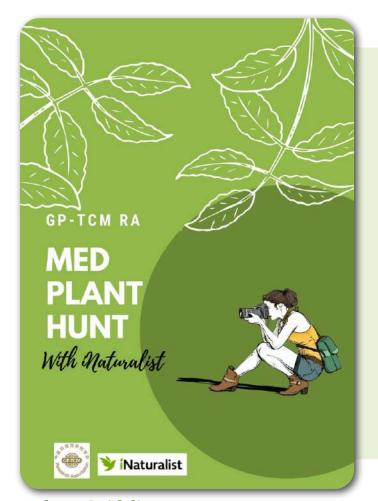


Critically evaluating someone else's research article

Writing a paper explaining my own research



#### Med Plant Hunt with iNaturalist



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

For inquiries about Med Plant Hunt, please send email to gptcm\_medplanthunt@outlook.com





Registration form

How to upload



#### Med Plant Hunt with iNaturalist



### **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.



# MED PLANT HUNT With Maturalist

# **Med Plant Hunt Registration Form**

Name: Email:

Affiliation: Country or region:

iNaturalist account information

User name:

User email:

(Please send the form to percomposition)









Registration form

How to upload



### Chinese Materia Medica Highlights



Chinese thorowax (Bupleurum chinense, Apiaceae, 北柴胡, left) and starwort (Stellaria dichotoma var. lanceolata, Caryophyllaceae, 银柴胡, right)





The dried roots of Bupleurum chinense (and Bupleurum scorzonerifolium) (bupleuri radix) and Stellaria dichotoma var. lanceolata (stellariae radix) are common Chinese medicinals official in current Chinese Pharmacopeia. Bupleuri radix was first recorded in the text of Divine Husbandman's Classic of Materia Medica (Shen Nong Ben Cao Jin) of the Eastern Han Dynasty (25~220). Bitter, pungent, and cold in properties, bupleuri radix releases the exterior, reduces fever, soothes the liver, relieves depression, raises and lifts the yang qi. It is indicated for common cold with fever and chills, distension and pain in the chest and hypochondria, irregular menstruation, uterine and/or rectum prolapse. Stellariae radix was first appeared in the text of *Omissions from the Compendium of Materia Medica (Ben* Cao Gang Mu Shi Yi) of the Qing Dynasty (1644~1911). Sweet and slightly cold in properties, stellariae radix clears deficient heat and eliminates heat from childhood nutritional impairment. It is indicated for yin deficiency fever and fever due to childhood food stagnation and parasitic accumulation.

According to relevant herbal market investigation, 22 Bupleurum species and 6 species from different genera in Caryophyllaceae were used as the original plants of bupleuri radix and stellariae radix, respectively, in different regions in China. The establishment of standardized cultivation sites of the official species, Bupleurum chinense and Stellaria dichotoma var. lanceolate, can help to prevent the above-mentioned medicinal material adulteration.

### 北柴胡

古方千载小柴胡 和解疏肝效果殊 欲服则需先辩证 若非时有又时无

### 银柴胡

根如鼠尾尺余长 柔软色微其味香 枝顶素花成五瓣 阴虚发热用时忙

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/EW80nSpZbG1NtwvliE2UZ2IBgGnFcQnqtONdDsiEFQuusA2n\_av=eyJyZWZlcnJhbEluZm8iOnsicmVmZXJyYWxBcHAiOiJPbmVEcmI2ZUZvckJ1c2luZXNzliwicmVmZXJyYWxBcHBQbGF0Zm9ybSI6IldlYilsInJIZmVycmFsTW9kZSI6InZpZxcii.ClyZWZlcnJhbFzpZxciOiJNeUZpbGVzTGlua0NvcHkifX0&e=ahnh10.



### Chinese Materia Medica Highlights



Chinese thorowax (*Bupleurum chinense*, Apiaceae, 北柴胡, left) and starwort (*Stellaria dichotoma* var. *lanceolata*, Caryophyllaceae, 银柴胡, right)





# The July-August 2024 Newsletter of GP-TCM Research Association



Just click here to enjoy the video:

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