



World Federation of Chinese Medicine Societies

NEWS

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CONTENT

International Cooperation and Exchanges

Cooperation Agreements Signed on CM Courses Certification	2
Malaysia: Registration of TM Practitioners before Medical Practice.....	2
Deepened Sino-Russia Cooperation on TM.....	3
Co-Laboratory of Pharmaceutical Preparations Established by Shanghai University of CM and Alpha MOS (France)	3

Chinese Medicine Abroad

Traditional Chinese acupuncture and placebo (sham) acupuncture are differentiated by their effects on μ -opioid receptors (MORs)	4
Efficacy and mechanisms of action of traditional Chinese medicines for treating asthma and allergy	5
Korea Institute of Medical Classics Set Up	6
Smith Kline: Set Foot in Chinese Herb Market.....	6

Working Newsletters of WFCMS

1st International Symposium on CM Translating, Editing and Publishing Held.....	7
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International Cooperation and Exchanges

Cooperation Agreements Signed on CM Courses Certification

(BERNAMA 2010.1.17) Four cooperation agreements are signed on CM courses certification between City of Sunderland College and Federation of Chinese Physicians and Acupuncturists Associations of Malaysia last night with the purpose of enhancing professional levels of TCM courses conducted by the federation.

According to Dr. Huang Baoguo, Secretary-General of the federation, this cooperation agreement concerns four courses: orthopedics Tuina, feet massage, herbal medicine, and scraping and cupping. Students who receive these courses have to take part in both graduate exams within the college and qualification certification from City of Sunderland College in order to obtain qualification certificates.

Malaysia: Registration of TM Practitioners before Medical Practice

(BERNAMA 2010.1.17) According to Malaysian minister of health, all CM practitioners have to register before medical practice in the Council of Traditional and Complementary Medicine which is about to be established.

He says, the Ministry of Health are drafting relevant Bills on Traditional and Complementary Medicine to be discussed in the House of Representatives this year, in accordance with which, TM practitioners registered in the Council of Traditional and Complementary Medicine will receive registered diploma as qualification certificates.

Deepened Sino-Russia Cooperation on TM

(China News of Chinese Medicine, 2009.12.21) A cooperation agreement is signed between China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences and Russian Naturopathy Society in Beijing on Dec 17th, 2009.

According to this agreement, the two parties will make concerted effort to develop CM and Russian TM to better serve the health of the two peoples; they will also try to jointly establish healthcare institutes in Russia and to adopt the discipline of CM healthcare into medical courses; cooperative projects on acupuncture, CM antivirus, and projects in CM clinical field will be conducted within the cooperative framework of science and technology; research fellows will be exchanged; comparative research on medical plants will be conducted; Sino-Russia TM information platform will be constructed with the purpose of establishing smooth information exchange mechanism and regular exchange system.

Co-Laboratory of Pharmaceutical Preparations Established by Shanghai University of CM and Alpha MOS (France)

(Web of Science 2009.12.31) Unveiling ceremony for the Co-Laboratory of Pharmaceutical Agents, managed by Alpha MOS (France) and Shanghai Zhangjiang Technology Engineering Research Center of Modern Preparation for Chinese Materia Medica attached to Shanghai University of CM, is held recently.

Chinese Medicine Abroad

Traditional Chinese acupuncture and placebo (sham) acupuncture are differentiated by their effects on μ -opioid receptors (MORs)

(Harris RE, Zubieta J-K, Scott, DJ) Controversy remains regarding the mechanisms of acupuncture analgesia. A prevailing theory, largely unproven in humans, is that it involves the activation of endogenous opioid antinociceptive systems and μ -opioid receptors (MORs). This is also a neurotransmitter system that mediates the effects of placebo-induced analgesia. This overlap in potential mechanisms may explain the lack of differentiation between traditional acupuncture and either non-traditional or sham acupuncture in multiple controlled clinical trials. We compared both short- and long-term effects of traditional Chinese acupuncture (TA) versus sham acupuncture (SA) treatment on in vivo MOR binding availability in chronic pain patients diagnosed with fibromyalgia (FM). Patients were randomized to receive either TA or SA treatment over the course of 4 weeks. Positron emission tomography (PET) with ^{11}C -carfentanil was performed once during the first treatment session and then repeated a month later following the eighth treatment. Acupuncture therapy evoked short-term increases in MOR binding potential, in multiple pain and sensory processing regions including the cingulate (dorsal and subgenual), insula, caudate, thalamus, and amygdala. Acupuncture therapy also evoked long-term increases in MOR binding potential in some of the same structures including the cingulate (dorsal and perigenual), caudate, and amygdala. These short- and long-term effects were absent in the sham group where small reductions were observed, an effect more consistent with previous placebo PET studies. Long-term increases in MOR BP following TA were also associated with greater reductions in clinical pain. These findings suggest that divergent MOR processes may mediate clinically relevant analgesic effects for acupuncture

and sham acupuncture.

Efficacy and mechanisms of action of traditional Chinese medicines for treating asthma and allergy

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Background

Although corticosteroids and β 2-agonists are effective in managing asthma symptoms, a curative therapy for asthma is lacking. Traditional Chinese medicine (TCM), used in Asia for centuries, is beginning to play a role in Western health care as a complementary and alternative medicine modality. There is increasing scientific evidence supporting the use of TCM for asthma treatment.

Objective

This review article discusses promising TCM interventions for asthma and explores their possible mechanisms of action.

Methods

We first reviewed 5 clinical studies of antiasthma TCM herbal remedies published between 2005 and 2007. We then summarized possible mechanisms underlying their effects on the basis of data in the original articles, published abstracts, and available databases. Possible mechanisms include anti-inflammation, inhibition of airway smooth muscle contraction, and immunomodulation. Research on TCM herbal therapy for food allergy is rare, and we therefore focused on the effect and mechanism of action of food allergy herbal formula-2 on a murine model of peanut allergy and preliminary clinical study results.

Conclusion

Evidence from clinical studies supports beneficial effects of TCM herbal therapy on asthma. A number of mechanisms may be responsible for efficacy of these agents. Strong preclinical study data suggest the potential efficacy of food allergy herbal formula-2 for food allergy.

Korea Institute of Medical Classics Set Up

(translated from *Korea Medical News*) Korea Institute of Medical Classics was set up, declared by President Zhao Renyuan, Kyung Hee University, on Dec. 31st 2009. Chung Changyin took up the post of the first Director.

Smith Kline: Set Foot in Chinese Herb Market

(*21st Century Business Herald*) Tianjin Smith Kline & French Laboratories Ltd was about to expand Chinese market after long time's waiting. Wu Hanrong, general manager of Sino-US GSK, said that, they will pay more attention to attracting global techniques into China this year.

New products adapted to primary health care market will be developed in order to open up market wider. James, global vice-president of GlaxoSmithKline, said that it is possible to develop Chinese herb products in China in the future.

The fifth Innovation Center was set up in Beijing. New products research and development will speed up. In schedule, products to lose weight, tobacco control and oral care are going to be introduced to China.

Sino-US GSK was been positioned as a Consumer Healthcare Products

Company in Chinese layout, which is affiliated to different subsidiary company compared to prescription drugs and vaccines business. OTC as a core business of Sino-US GSK will not change in recent decade. But the proportion of consumer goods will increase rather than enter into the field of prescription drugs.

Working Newsletters of WFCMS

1st International Symposium on CM Translating, Editing and Publishing Held

Hosted by Specialty Committee of Publish & Edit of WFCMS and Specialty Committee of Translation of WFCMS, 1st International Symposium on TCM Translating, Editing and Publishing is held in Beijing on Jan 16th 2010. More than 200 delegates from China, Japan, Australia, America, Canada, and Ireland attend the meeting, who suggest, international CM translation and publication be kept pure and characteristics-highlighted.