

The Quality control of Chinese Medicine

Materials - The Assessments of Production



Introduction

This is a rehashed report on the research, “A study of authentication for traditional Chinese medicines,” a project conducted by Prof. Chen Chungchuan at Chinese Medical University under a 1988-1996 contract with this committee. After polishing, it was printed as an illustrated book for convenience of reading. The book contains 247 herbal medicines divided into 11 categories, and the presentation includes their shape, structure under microscope, and feature of power (with picture). It is hoped that the illustrations will be used as standard for GMP pharmacy personnel to distinguish a genuine medicine with a fake medicine. Following are some explanations on the contents:

1. This book presents 247 botanic and folk medicines arranged according the parts of the plants used for medicine. If different parts of a plant are used for medicine, they are presented separately according to parts used.
2. The book uses the established medical name of the herb as the name and the presentation includes the source, other names, shape, characteristics, histological authentication, powder authentication, and structural map, totaling seven.
3. Source: The presentation covers the family, specie, name, and the part of the plant for medical use.
4. Other names: Collected are the district name, native name, and folk name.
5. Characteristics: The presentation portrays the shapes and features of all the major parts of the crude or treated medicine.
6. Histological authentication: The presentation describes the slice under

microscopic examination from the outer edge toward the center.

7. Powder authentication: The presentation describes the powder structure as seen through a microscope according to color, smell and features of various parts and their sizes.
8. Histological map: The histological maps of medicines in this book include the map of the original plant, medicinal map, enlarged map of structural weakness, structural map of the cross section, and the map of powder structure. The abbreviations are introduced in the table of biological abbreviations.