

Compilation of English-Chinese Bilingual Index on Physical and Chemical information Concerning TCM Ingredients



Introduction

Herbal medicine is a treasure of the traditional culture of our nation and, after thousands of years' refinement, it has become an indispensable part of our life. Due to the emergence of various complicated diseases, the spread of chronic diseases, and the jumping increase of diseases for the aged, the demand for medicines is increasing with time. Compared with synthetic medicines, herbal medicines are more natural and have shown their remarkable effectiveness on various diseases and, therefore, have drawn more and more attention in the world. Traditional Chinese medicines, however, are very complicated in chemical content. They are more so because their origins of production are not easy to grasp. Consequently, their quality is difficult to maintain, especially that of compound Chinese medicines. For this reason, the establishment of the quality control method constitutes a vital link in the effort to make Chinese medicines modern and scientific, a vital requirement for pushing Chinese medicine onto the world stage.

Since 1992, the Department 10f Health has planned quantitative methods for fixing the emblematic substances of traditional Chinese medicines to raise their quality and perfect the regulation for them. In coordination with the implementation of quantitative fix for medical herbs and their products, the Division of Scientific and Technological Development and the Committee on Chinese Medicines and Pharmacy,DOH,contracted scholars and experts to proceed with the studies of the emblematic substances of Chinese medicines. The findings of the studies and the substances separated were sent to the Center of Pharmaceutical Technology for purity appraisal. All the contrast

products of the emblematic substances obtained by various research institutions were sent to the Industrial Development Bureau of the Ministry of Economic Affairs for use in raising the quality Chinese medical products.

As this kind of materials is rare and in great demand, the Committee on Chinese Medicine and Pharmacy compiled them into a book, titled *Contrasted Presentation of Physical and Chemical Data of Emblematic Substances of Chinese Medicines*. To ensure the high quality and correctness of information, the committee invited experts to organize an editorial group to vet the original materials obtained from the research institutions and study other editorial matters. This editorial group was headed by Prof. Wu Yong-chang and composed of Prof. Wu Tien-shang, Researcher Chen Chien-chih, Vice Prof. Chang Yong-hsun, Prof. Hsu Feng-lin, and Vice Prof. Lin Han-chin. With help from the Center of Medical Technology in sorting out the materials and after a number of discussions, the vetting of the book was finally completed at the end of 2001 and the book made its debut in March 2002.

The contents of this book covers the medical herbs completed in 1999, including *Saposhinkoviadivaricata*, *Fructus Arctii*, *Asarum*, *Bunge*, *Atractylodis*, *Rheum officinale* Baill, *Lonicera*, *Lobed Kudzuvine Root*, *Dendrobium*, *Tetradium ruticarpum*, *Atractylodes lancea*, *Chinese Angelica*, *Tall Gastrodia Tuber*, *Uncaria rhynchophylla*, *Gardenia jasminoides* Ellis, *Chinese Gentian*, *Radix Notoginseng*, *Schizandra chinensis*, *tangerine peel*, *Magnolia lfficinaois* Rehd.et Wils., *Taiwan Angelica Root*, *Anemarrhenae Rhizoma*, *Matrine*, *Giant Typhoniumh Rhizome*, *bitter orange*, *Purplestem Antelica*, *tree peony bark*, *Forsythia suspense*, *Chinese Thorowax Root*, *common Jasmin orange*, *Cocculus orbiculatus* Cocculus, *natural Indigo*, *peony*, and *Polygonum multiflorum* Thunb. The researches produced 59 emblematic substances, which, including their origins, general information, chromatographic data, and spectral data, were arranged in the alphabetic order in the book. Chairman Lin of this committee hopes the research results presented in this book will be used for raising the quality of Chinese medicines and serve as the basis of regulating the quality of Chinese pharmaceutical products. Certainly, this book is helpful to the enhancement of the method of quantitative fix. This committee will continue to compile related books for reference of Chinese medical circles so we can jointly strive for the modernization of traditional Chinese medicines.