

Genomics Approach to Chinese Medicine and Core Technology Training Course(I)



Introduction

The completion of genome sequencing of the Human Genome Project (HGP) purports the arrival of post-genetic era. It is believed that gene-oriented medicine will eventually become the mainstream of the medical science in the 21st century. This will have a revolutionary impact not only on the clinical diagnosis, tracing and evaluation of Western medicine but also on traditional Chinese medicine. Chinese medicine must, on the basis of cutting-edge biotechnology and molecular bioscience, prove its theory with evidence in order to catch up with era of genetic medicine.

Given the importance of genetic study in traditional Chinese medicine, this committee pays pretty much attention to the development of this study. We have invited experts (including members of the Academia Sinica) to discuss the direction for gearing traditional Chinese medicine to genetic studies. We have mapped out the “Related Plans for Chinese Medical Genomic Studies” and included it into the nation’s “Challenge 2008 – Priority Plans for National Development.” Implementation of the plan has become the responsibility of this committee since 2003. This committee has invited experts and project directors to make two-way communication between them, and has established Chinese medical genetic research teams in several research institutes. These teams A group of experts in Western and Chinese medicines, bio-science, and statistics and work on a research platform. It is hoped that these comprehensive research teams can recruit experts from different disciplines to uncover the essence of traditional Chinese medicine so that it can win international recognition and massively expand its use.

Before implementing the national project of genomic studies, this committee had held three training sessions in Chinese medical genomic study to teach core technology for the cultivation of personnel. These trainings were respectively held at National Yangming University in 2002, at Chinese Medical University in 2004, and at Kaohsiung Medical University Hospital in 2005. In addition, we offered field study of core genetic technology, receiving warm responses from the trainees. Here, we must express our gratitude to Prof. Wu Kuo-hai, who has for years presided over this committee's personnel training projects, Mr. Lin Kuo-jui, director of the training institute, and Mr. Liu Han-sheng, chief of the project, for their painstaking planning and for recruiting experts to give lectures. With authorization from the lecturers, this committee publishes this DVD book on 2004-05 trainings for reference of people engaging in traditional Chinese medical genetic studies. We hope more trainees will become capable of continuing the studies and employing their technology in the study of Chinese medicines. This will advance the modernization and scientification of Chinese medicine and quicken the day of complementary support between Western medicine and Chinese medicine so that our nation will become more competitive in the world. This DVD book, we hope, will be helpful to those who engage in related studies for them to join hands for the development of Chinese medicine.