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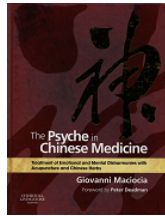
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**LIBRARY NEWSLETTER**

No. 4, 2009

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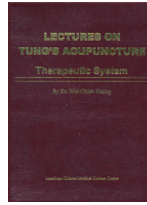
***NEWLY ACQUIRED BOOKS***



**The Psyche in Chinese Medicine / by Giovanni Maciocia; Churchill Livingstone, 2009.**

This work comprehensively discusses the treatment of mental-emotional disorders with both acupuncture and herbal medicine. It discusses the etiology, pathology, and diagnosis of mental disorders, then explores the nature of the Mind (Shen), Ethereal Soul (Hun), Corporeal Soul, (Po), Intellect (Yi) and Will-Power (Zhi) and details the diagnosis and treatment of the most common psychological disorders with both acupuncture and Chinese herbs. Specific chapters focus on the treatment of common conditions including depression, anxiety, insomnia, panic attacks, bipolar disorder and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. Each condition is illustrated with case histories from the author's extensive clinical experience.

Key features include a comprehensive discussion of the nature of the Shen, Hun, Po, Yi and Zhi in Chinese medicine; the first detailed description of the nature and functions of the Hun (Ethereal Soul) and how that relates to conditions such as depression, bipolar disorders and ADHD; an entire chapter dedicated to the functions of acupuncture points in the treatment of mental-emotional disorders; case studies that offer realistic insights and understanding to the range of diagnostic and treatment choices the practitioner can make; and an attractive 2-color page layout for easy access and navigation around the text.



**Lectures on Tung's Acupuncture: Therapeutic System / by Dr. Wei-Chieh Young;  
American Chinese Medical Culture Center, 2008.**

This book was translated from its Korean and Chinese versions which originally were the transcripts of the seminar Dr. Young Wei-chieh lectured for two universities in Korea several years ago. During the process of translation, the mistakes or omissions were corrected and supplemented. The English version is more completed and accurate compared to the Korean and Chinese versions.

The book focuses on the therapeutic system of Tung's Acupuncture. Disorders covered in this book are written with point selections and the analysis of their reasons and theoretical principles. The point selections according to the 14 meridians and the reasons explained in accordance with the classic acupuncture and Dr. Young's personal experience are accompanied too. There is also the comparison of the therapeutic effect between the applications of the 14-meridians and Tung's acupuncture. All subjects are covered in depth and practical in clinic. They help the readers to choose either the 14-meridians or the Tung's acupuncture or the combination of both to treat diseases. This is not only a book on Tung's therapeutic system, but also a practical book on therapeutics in the 14 meridians.

Important theoretical principles such as Zang Fu Bei Tung (The extraordinary connections of the zangfu), Ti Ying Zhen Fa (Application of Holographic Acupuncture Technique for Different Parts of the Body), *Taiji* Holography and Correspondence, and the Method of Selecting Five Shu Points of the Same Five-element Category have their own chapters to elaborate their theoretical principles and applications in details. Those chapters will help the readers comprehend the advanced theories of Tung's extraordinary points and ingeniously incorporate Tung's acupuncture into their clinical practice.



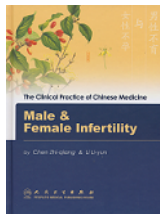
**Lectures on Tung's Acupuncture: Points Study / by Dr. Wei-Chieh Young;  
American Chinese Medical Culture Center, 2008.**

This book mainly talks about the location, application, and mechanism of Tung's

extraordinary points. It is the elevation and replacement of the book Tung's Acupuncture published in 2005, and therefore the content of the book is deeper, richer, and of course, more practical. The emphasis of the book is on the exploration and elaboration of the "mechanism, elucidation and application" of Master Tung's original work.

In "Remarks," Dr. Young expounds in detail the locations of these points so they can be easily and correctly found. In addition to the elaboration of indications under "mechanism, elucidation and application," an emphasis is placed on the mechanism of the indications. In this way, the readers can understand the reason for the indications and use them in the clinic freely and obtain more remarkable effect. The contents under the headings of *location, function, indication, selection, and manipulation* adhere to Master Tung's original work so the readers can understand the manner and spirit of Master Tung's thought.

To help the readers find the points rapidly and correctly, there is an illustration for each point after the main text. The intention is to let the readers apply Tung's points better. Each illustration is indicated by the heading "Fig."



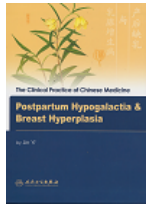
**The Clinical Practice of Chinese Medicine: Male & Female Infertility / by Chen Zhi-qiang & Li Li-yun; People's Medical Publishing House, 2008.**

Infertility is a condition that seriously impacts the quality of life for many families, and recent studies suggest that Chinese medicine may effectively increase conception rates. The intention of this book is to offer complementary treatment approaches for both male and female infertility.

Most of the cases of infertility successfully treated in China do not rely on techniques such as in vitro fertilization, which are quite expensive and have only a modest rate of success. On the other hand, by combining these methods with acupuncture and Chinese medicinal therapy, infertility can be effectively treated in most cases. An integrative approach to treatment can reduce pharmaceutical side effects, and also shorten the course of treatment. Disorders associated with female infertility were first recorded in the Chinese medical literature as early as 2000 years ago. By providing the time-honored clinical methods of Chinese traditional medicine, this text will undoubtedly benefit the reproductive health of many patients.

Features:

- Pattern differentiation and treatment with herbs & acupuncture
- Clinical experience of renowned physicians
- Case studies from famous Chinese doctors
- Relevant contemporary research on pattern differentiation & formulas
- Selected quotes from classical texts

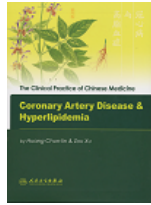


The Clinical Practice of Chinese Medicine: **Postpartum Hypogalactia & Breast Hyperplasia** / by Lin Yi; People's Medical Publishing House, 2007.

At present, 30%~40% of adult women have different kinds of breast diseases at different levels, and the incidence rate keeps rising. Therefore, the prevention and treatment of breast diseases have become an important issues for the maintenance of women's health. Chinese medicine has a history of over two thousand years on the treatment of breast diseases, thus accumulating abundant experience in fundamental theory, treatment modalities, prevention and regulation of breast diseases. Notably, a diagnosis and treatment system with integral theory, confirmative efficacy, marked advantages and distinguished characteristics has been shaped over postpartum hypogalactia and breast hyperplasia.

Features:

- Pattern differentiation and treatment with herbs & acupuncture
- Clinical experience of distinguished physicians
- Famous physicians' case studies
- Relevant contemporary research on pattern differentiation & formulas
- Selected quotes from classical texts

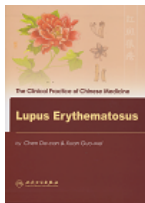


**The Clinical Practice of Chinese Medicine: Coronary Artery Disease & Hyperlipidemia / by Huang Chun-lin & Zou Xu; People's Medical Publishing House, 2007.**

Cardiovascular diseases have been life-threatening conditions to mankind for centuries. Chinese medicine has a long history in treating cardiovascular diseases. Its clinical curative effects have already been verified by a large number of clinical experiments. The researches of organic integration of biomedical techniques of the last twenty years with Chinese medicine have revealed the mechanism of Chinese medicine in treating cardiovascular diseases. This book systematically summarizes the clinical experience of treating cardiovascular disease with Chinese medicine and collects experts' clinical insights to demonstrate the highest level of Chinese medical treatments. It also covers the present clinical results achieved in treating coronary artery disease and Hyperlipidemia which demonstrate superiority and characteristics of traditional Chinese medicine treatment.

**Features:**

- Pattern differentiation and treatment with herbs & acupuncture
- Clinical experience of distinguished physicians
- Famous physicians' case studies
- Relevant contemporary research on pattern differentiation & formulas
- Selected quotes from classical texts



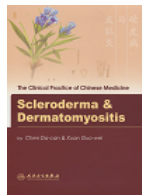
**The Clinical Practice of Chinese Medicine: Lupus Erythematosus / by Chen Da-can & Xuan Guo-wei; People's Medical Publishing House, 2007.**

Lupus erythematosus is a chronic autoimmune disease that seriously influences the health of the body. The prevalence of lupus erythematosus is rising, but the etiology still remains unclear. Currently, glucocorticoids and immunosuppressants are mainly used to ease the symptoms and reduce complications. But long-term application of these medicines

causes many side effects, such as infection, anemia, osteoporosis, high blood pressure and diabetes. Thanks to thousands of years' clinical practice, Chinese medicine has accumulated abundant experiences in the treatment of lupus erythmatosus. Based on pattern differentiation, satisfactory results have been achieved. Clinical researches have demonstrated that Chinese medicine can reduce the side effects of biomedicine, help the patient to gradually reduce daily dosage of corticosteroids, prevent the disease from aggravation, regulate the immunity functions, improve the survival rates and life quality, etc.

Features:

- Pattern differentiation and treatment with herbs & acupuncture
- Clinical experience of distinguished physicians
- Famous physicians' case studies
- Relevant contemporary research on pattern differentiation & formulas
- Selected quotes from classical texts



The Clinical Practice of Chinese Medicine: **Scleroderma & Dermatomyositis** / by **Chen Da-can & Xuan Guo-wei**; **People's Medical Publishing House, 2007.**

In clinical practice, scleroderma and dermatomyositis (DMS) are commonly and frequently seen in the dermatological department. These diseases invade the skin as well as multiple organs, thus severely influence health and are even life threatening. Therefore, they are recognized as difficult diseases to be cured with poor prognosis. Based on pattern differentiation, Chinese medical approaches can effectively decrease the side effects in biomedical therapies, regulate the immune system and improve the patients' health and life quality.

Features:

- Pattern differentiation and treatment with herbs & acupuncture
- Clinical experience of distinguished physicians
- Famous physicians' case studies
- Relevant contemporary research on pattern differentiation & formulas
- Selected quotes from classical texts



The Clinical Practice of Chinese Medicine: **Chloasma & Vitiligo** / by **Xuan Guo-wei & Fan Rui-qiang**; **People's Medical Publishing House, 2007.**

Chloasma and vitiligo are refractory conditions of pigmentary skin disorders. Chloasma frequently occurs in adult females and the risk is higher during child-bearing age. There are no ideal therapies available in biomedicine. Due to long term clinical experience, the pathology of Chloasma has been interpreted in Chinese medicine and there is a popular knowledge that the treatment of Chloasma is based on harmonizing qi, blood, yin and yang.

Vitiligo is a skin disease which is easy to diagnose since it involves depigmentation. However, it is hard to cure. Its mechanism is unclear and no effective treatments have been established up to present in biomedicine. In spite of thousand years of experience of treating vitiligo with Chinese medicine, it is only recent that this disease is associated with deficiency of liver and kidney, qi stagnation and blood stasis. Therefore, the principles of nourishing liver and kidney, invigorating blood to dispel stasis and regulating qi and blood are applied to achieve positive therapeutic effect.

Features:

- Pattern differentiation and treatment with herbs & acupuncture
- Clinical experience of distinguished physicians
- Famous physicians' case studies
- Relevant contemporary research on pattern differentiation & formulas
- Selected quotes from classical texts



**Divine Soul Songs: Sacred practical treasures to heal, rejuvenate, and transform you, humanity, Mother Earth, and all universes** / by **Dr. Zhi Gang Sha**; **ATRIA Books, 2009.**

Divine Soul Songs carry divine frequency and vibration, with divine love, forgiveness,

compassion, and light. Millions are searching for soul secrets, wisdom, knowledge, and practices to fulfil their spiritual journeys. They want to know the purpose of life. They want their spiritual journeys to be deeply blessed. They also want to transform their physical lives. They want health. They want happiness. They want to prolong life. They want good relationships. They want financial abundance. The Divine Soul Songs offered in this book can transform every aspect of your life. They are treasures to be used for healing, rejuvenation, and purification of your soul, heart, mind, and body, and the souls, hearts, minds, and bodies of others. Every book in the Soul Power Series offers new teachings to empower readers to do soul self healing and more, but this book has more practical exercises than any other. Here Dr. Sha gives you the experience of a live Divine Soul Songs workshop with him. He presents these treasures in such a simple and practical way that you'll soon experience profound results. Enjoy them. Practice them. Benefit from them. Use these divine treasures to serve yourself, your loved ones, and others.

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## ARTICLE ABSTRACTS

**Depressive Neurosis Treated by Acupuncture for Regulating the Liver – A Report of 176 Cases** / by Wen-bin Fu, et al; Journal of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Vol. 29, No.2, P. 83-86, 2009.

**Objective:** To observe therapeutic effect of acupuncture for regulating the liver on depressive neurosis.

**Methods:** In a multi-center randomized controlled trial, 440 patients were divided into 3 groups: Acupuncture group for regulating the liver (Acup., 176 cases) was treated by acupuncture at Siguan Points, i.e. bilateral Hegu (LI 4) and Taichong (LR 3), Baihui (GV 20) and Yintang (EX-HN3) plus ear-acupuncture, Prozac group (P., 176 cases) by oral administration of Prozac, and Non-acupoint needling group (NAN, 88 cases) by acupuncture at non-acupoints as acupuncture placebo. Self-rating Depression Scale (SDS) was examined before treatment, and one month, two and three months after treatment respectively to evaluate therapeutic effect, and Rating Scale for Side Effects (SERS) was used to evaluate the safety.

**Results:** After one month of treatment, SDS scores in Acup. Group were significantly lower than that in P. Group ( $P<0.05$ ) and than that in NAN Group ( $P<0.01$ ), and SDS scores in P. Group were lower than that in NAN Group ( $P<0.05$ ), showing the SDS scores in Acup. Group  $<$ P. Group  $<$ NAN Group. After 2 months of treatment, SDS scores in Acup. Group were also significantly lower than that in P. Group ( $P<0.01$ ) and than that in NAN Group ( $P<0.01$ ), and SDS scores in P. Group were also lower than that in NAN Group ( $P<0.05$ ), showing the SDS scores in Acup. Group  $<$ P. Group  $<$ NAN Group. After 3 months of treatment, SDS scores in Acup. Group were also significantly lower than that in P. Group ( $P<0.01$ ) and than that in NAN Group ( $P<0.01$ ), and SDS scores in P. Group were also lower than that in NAN Group ( $P<0.01$ ), showing the SDS score in Acup. Group  $<$ P. Group  $<$ NAN Group. After treatment, SERS scores were  $0.16\pm 0.95$ ,  $6.51\pm 5.09$  and  $0.23\pm 1.36$  in Acup. Group, P. Group and NAN Group respectively. A significant difference existed between Acup. Group and P. Group ( $P<0.05$ ), but no

significant difference between Acup. Group and NAN Group ( $P>0.05$ ), showing the SERS scores in Acup. Group  $<$  NAN Group  $<$  P. Group. No side effect was found in Acup. and NAN groups.

**Conclusion:** The therapeutic effect of acupuncture on depressive neurosis is better than or similar to that of Prozac but with less side effect.

**Fifty Cases of Vertebrobasilar Ischemic Vertigo Treated by Acupuncture** / by Qiong Huang; Journal of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Vol. 29, No.2, P. 87-89, 2009.

**Objective:** To observe the therapeutic effects of filiform needle acupuncture combined with dermal needle tapping for vertebrobasilar ischemic vertigo.

**Methods:** Based on the etiopathogenesis of TCM, the disease is caused by turbid phlegm clouding the heart orifice combined with wind, leading to insufficient nourishment of the brain due to deficiency of blood. Fenglong (ST 40) was punctured with filiform needle to resolve phlegm; Fengchi (GB 20) to dispel wind; Baihui (GV 20) to stop dizziness; and Lieque (LU 7) to widen the inner diameter of the vertebral arteries and increase peak systolic velocity and minute blood flow volume, so as to improve blood supply to the vertebral arteries. Dazhui (GV 14) was stimulated by tapping with a dermal needle to improve blood supply to the head.

**Results:** Of 50 patients in this series, 39 cases (78%) were cured, 6 cases (12%) relieved, 4 cases (8%) improved, and 1 case (2%) failed, with a total effective rate of 98%.

**CONCLUSION:** Acupuncture combined with dermal needle tapping is an effective therapy for treating vertebrobasilar ischemic vertigo.

**Forty Cases of Insomnia Treated by Suspended Moxibustion at Baihui (GV 20)** / by Yan-li Jun, Xu Chi, & Jian-xin Liu; Journal of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Vol. 29, No.2, P. 95-96, 2009.

**Objective:** To observe therapeutic effect of suspended moxibustion at Baihui (GV 20) for insomnia.

**Methods:** 75 cases were divided randomly into two groups, with 40 cases in the treatment group treated by suspended moxibustion over Baihui (GV 20) and 35 cases in the control group treated by oral administration of Estazolam.

**Results:** The difference in therapeutic effect between the two groups was not statistically significant ( $P>0.1$ ).

**Conclusion:** It was concluded that suspended moxibustion at Baihui (GV 20) is as effective as Estazolam for insomnia.

**Joint Reinforcing-Reducing Effect of Acupuncture, Moxibustion and Cupping Therapies** / by Lan Zhong; Journal of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Vol. 29, No.2, P.

101-103, 2009.

Based on experience in selecting points and performing manipulation according to syndromes for more than 30 years of clinical practice, the author has summarized a simple, effective and practicable method to achieve the joint reinforcing-reducing effect of acupuncture, moxibustion and cupping therapies.

**A Survey of the Studies on White Tiger Shaking Head Method Described by Ancient and Modern Physicians** / by Gong-lei Yue, et al; Journal of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Vol. 29, No.2, P. 107-110, 2009.

Having studied white tiger shaking head method described by ancient and modern physicians, and analyzed and compared its manipulation techniques, the authors believe that the core of white tiger shaking head method originates from Zhenjiu Daquan (Complete Book of Acupuncture-Moxibustion) by Xu Feng lies in the techniques of “squarely withdrawing and circularly inserting” and “shaking and vibrating”, and the manipulation factor is “circularly inserting and shaking, and squarely withdrawing and vibrating”. Physicians such as WANG Ji (his second method), YANG Ji-zhong, LU Shou-kang and ZHENG Kui-shan inherited and developed white tiger shaking head method. Wang Ji’s first method and what LI Chan and modern physicians YANG Zhao-min and LU Shou-yan described do not belong to white tiger shaking head method. The authors have made a new suggestion on standardizing the manipulation of white tiger shaking head method and approached to new ideas on research into standardization of ancient acupuncture.

**Clinical Observation on Hyperlipemia Treated with Antihyperlipidemic Decoction** / by Chun-feng, Xu, Xiu-ru Lin & Yin-kun Wang; Journal of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Vol. 29, No.2, P. 121-124, 2009.

**Objective:** To observe therapeutic effect of antihyperlipidemic decoction on hyperlipemia. **Methods:** 77 hyperlipemia patients are selected and randomly divided into two groups. 37 cases in the treatment group received the treatment of antihyperlipidemic decoction, and 40 cases in the control group received western medicine, zhinbiticose. The course of treatment for both groups was 8 weeks. **Results:** The difference in total effective rate between the two groups was significant ( $P < 0.05$ ). **Conclusion:** Antihyperlipidemic decoction has a better therapeutic effect for hyperlipemia, with a lower recurrence rate and less side effect.

**Acupuncture for Dyspepsia in Pregnancy: a Prospective, Randomised, Controlled Study**

/ by João Bosco Guerreiro da Silva et al; *Acupuncture in Medicine* Vol. 27, No.2, P. 50-53, 2009.

**Objectives:** This study was undertaken to describe under real-life conditions the effects of acupuncture on symptomatic dyspepsia during pregnancy and to compare this with a group of patients undergoing conventional treatment alone.

**Methods:** A total of 42 conventionally treated pregnant women were allocated by chance into two groups to be treated, or not, by acupuncture. They reported the severity of symptoms and the disability these were causing in daily aspects of life such as sleeping and eating, using a numerical rating scale. The study also observed the use of medications.

**Results:** Six women dropped out (one in the acupuncture group and five in the control group). Significant improvements in symptoms were found in the study group. This group also used less medication and had a greater improvement in their disabilities when compared with the control group.

**Conclusions:** This study suggests that acupuncture may alleviate dyspepsia during pregnancy.

### **Research into Acupuncture for Respiratory Disease in Japan: a Systematic Review**

/ by Masao Suzuki, Yoko Yokoyama, Hiroshi Yamazaki; *Acupuncture in Medicine* Vol. 27, No.2, P. 56-60, 2009.

**Background:** In Japan, studies on acupuncture therapy for respiratory disease have rarely been reported. Additionally, most of the reports are difficult for overseas researchers to access because they are written in Japanese and cannot be located using Medline.

**Purpose:** To review studies on acupuncture and moxibustion therapy for respiratory disease conducted in Japan.

**Data sources:** The results of a literature search using "Igakyo Chuo Zasshi Web" and the Medical Online Library, both of which are Japanese databases, covering the period between 1979 and 2006.

**Study selection:** This study reviewed references cited in retrieved documents and selected original articles and case reports on acupuncture and moxibustion therapy for respiratory disease.

**Data extraction:** The search terms used were "acupuncture" and "respiratory disease", along with "respiratory", "asthma", "COPD", "bronchitis" and "common cold".

**Results:** The study retrieved 34 papers on acupuncture treatment for respiratory disease written in Japanese (9 full papers, 19 case reports and 6 case series). The papers dealt with such conditions as asthma (14 trials), cough variant asthma (one trial), chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (seven trials), chronic bronchitis (one trial), usual/idiopathic interstitial pneumonia (one trial) and the common cold (two trials). The study also found eight trials dealing with cold prevention.

**Conclusions:** A small number of reports on acupuncture and moxibustion treatment for respiratory diseases were found in the Japanese databases. Future studies must use more

rigorous evaluation methods, such as randomised controlled trials, to measure the effectiveness of acupuncture and moxibustion therapy for treating respiratory diseases.

**Acupuncture for Chemotherapy-Induced Neutropenia in Patients with Gynecologic Malignancies: A Pilot Randomized, Sham-Controlled Clinical Trial** / by Weidong Lu, et al; *The Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine*, 15(7): 745-753, 2009.

**Objectives:** The objective of this study was to investigate the effect of acupuncture administered during myelosuppressive chemotherapy on white blood cell (WBC) count and absolute neutrophil count (ANC) in patients with ovarian cancer.

**Design:** This study is a pilot, randomized, sham-controlled clinical trial. Patients received active acupuncture versus sham acupuncture while undergoing chemotherapy. A standardized acupuncture protocol was employed with manual and electrostimulation. The frequency of treatment was 2–3 times per week for a total of 10 sessions, starting 1 week before the second cycle of chemotherapy.

**Setting:** The setting was two outpatient academic centers for patients with cancer.

**Subjects:** Twenty-one (21) newly diagnosed and recurrent ovarian cancer patients were the subjects.

**Outcome measures:** WBC count, ANC, and plasma granulocyte colony-stimulating factor (G-CSF) were assessed weekly.

**Results:** The median leukocyte value in the acupuncture arm at the first day of the third cycle of chemotherapy was significantly higher than in the control arm after adjusting for baseline value (8600 cells/ $\mu$ L, range: 4800–12,000 versus 4400 cell/ $\mu$ L, range: 2300–10,000) ( $p=0.046$ ). The incidence of grade 2–4 leukopenia was less in the acupuncture arm than in the sham arm (30% versus 90%;  $p=0.02$ ). However, the median leukocyte nadir, neutrophil nadir, and recovering ANC were all higher but not statistically significantly different ( $p=0.116$ – $0.16$ ), after adjusting for baseline differences. There were no statistically significant differences in plasma G-CSF between the two groups.

**Synergistic Effect of Starch and Royal Jelly Against *Staphylococcus Aureus* and *Escherichia coli*** / by Laïd Boukraâ, et al; *The Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine*, 15(7): 755-757, 2009.

**Objectives:** To evaluate the synergistic action of starch on the antibacterial activity of royal jelly (RJ), a comparative method of adding RJ with and without starch to culture media was used.

**Methods:** Strains of *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Escherichia coli* have been used to determine the minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) of a variety of freshly reaped RJ. In a second step, lower concentrations of RJ than the MIC were incubated with a set of concentrations of starch and then were added to media to determine the minimum

synergistic inhibitory concentration.

**Results:** The MIC of RJ without starch was 1.7% (vol/vol) and 2% (vol/vol) against *S. aureus* and *E. coli*, respectively. When starch was incubated with RJ and then added to media, a significant MIC drop has been noticed against both strains. This MIC drop was 61% and 30% against *S. aureus* and *E. coli*, respectively.

**Conclusions:** The effectiveness of RJ against bacteria has been extensively reviewed, but this bee product remains unaffordable in most countries. Our findings suggest that combined mixture of RJ and starch could be used to treat infections that are resistant to conventional drugs, at a lower cost.

**Hot Topics in Chinese Herbal Drugs Research Documented in PubMed/MEDLINE® by Authors Inside China and Outside of China in the Past 10 Years: Based on Co-Word Cluster Analysis** / by Hai-Yan Li, Lei Cui, Meng Cui; The Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine, 15(7): 779-785, 2009.

**Objective:** This study aims to gain an overview of hot topics related to research focused on Chinese herbal drugs by authors inside China and outside of China in the past 10 years.

**Methods:** PubMed/MEDLINE was utilized in order to investigate and select research that was published on “Chinese herbal drugs” from 1998 to 2007, by authors located both inside and outside of China (MeSH terms were downloaded and ranked). MeSH terms that frequently appeared were identified and co-word analysis was carried out for two groups: (1) authors located in China, and (2) authors based outside of China, respectively. The hot topics concerning research into Chinese herbal drugs were concluded after cluster analysis and related document analysis.

**Results:** For authors in the China group versus those outside the China group, the search results were 4790 versus 2609 citations and approximately 40,000 versus 20,000 MeSH terms, respectively. The threshold value of highly frequent terms was set at 30 versus 20, and the cumulative frequency percentage of these terms was 40.92% versus 36.67%, respectively. Thus, 43 highly frequent MeSH terms were identified and 43 × 43 co-word matrices were acquired for each group. The appearance frequency of MeSH showed that most research focused on pharmacology, therapeutic application, phytotherapy, side-effects of Chinese herbal drugs, and identification of active chemical components in herbs.

**Conclusion:** The hot topics are as follows: (1) anti-inflammatory activity, antioxidant activities, anticancer activity of phytogetic antineoplastic agents, and neuroprotective effects of Chinese herbal drugs; (2) common diseases treated with Chinese herbal drugs include hepatocirrhosis, diabetes, angina, chronic hepatitis B in China, and diabetes, asthma, prostate cancer, and hepatocirrhosis outside of China; (3) Chinese herbal nephropathy and acute hepatitis induced by Chinese herbal drugs; (4) PC-SPES (PDQ®) for the treatment of prostate cancer, which was a hot topic for researchers located outside of China; (5) research on extraction of active components from medicinal plants; and finally (6) research related to the identification of the Chinese herbal drugs component with state-of-the-art technologies in China.