*As of 20 August 2025*

# Event Report
# International Conference of the Modernization of Chinese Medicine & Health Products (ICMCM)

**"The Latest Research Progress in the Prevention and Treatment of Tumors, Inflammation and Cardiovascular and Cerebrovascular Diseases with Traditional Medicine"**
**傳統醫藥防治腫瘤、炎症及心腦血管疾病最新研究進展**

## Renowned Thought Leaders Gather at the Conference

This year, the conference was once again hosted in a hybrid format, with the theme of "The Latest Research Progress in the Prevention and Treatment of Tumors, Inflammation and Cardiovascular and Cerebrovascular Diseases with Traditional Medicine". It featured 21 distinguished speakers from four countries and regions, including Malaysia, Thailand, Mainland China, and Hong Kong. All speakers attended in person, with the exception of one who joined virtually. The presentations highlighted the latest research findings in Chinese Medicine pre-clinical studies and showcased successful cases of product commercialisation.

**Session 1: Keynote Speech**

1. Dr. KO Wing-man, GBS, JP, Chairman, TCM All-sector Hong Kong Centre (Hong Kong)
2. Prof. Aiping LYU, Vice-President (Research and Development) cum Dean of Graduate School, Hong Kong Baptist University (Hong Kong)
3. Prof. Clara Bik-San LAU, Professor, Department of Pharmacology and Pharmacy & School of Chinese Medicine, LKS Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong (Hong Kong)

**Session 2: The Latest Research Progress in the Prevention and Treatment of Tumors and Inflammation with Traditional Medicine**

4. Prof. ZHANG Yongwen, Professor, Nanjing University of Chinese Medicine (Mainland China)
5. Prof. Wenliang LYU, Vice President of Guang'anmen Hospital, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences (Mainland China)
6. Dr. Wan Najbah Nik Nabil, Pharmacist, Malaysia (Malaysia)
7. Mr. Peeraphong Lertnimitphun, Traditional Chinese Medicine Doctor,

HuaChiew TCM Hospital (Thailand)

**Session 3: The Latest Research Progress in the Prevention and Treatment of Cardiovascular and Cerebrovascular Diseases with Traditional Medicine**

8. Prof. Lixia CHEN, Professor PI and Doctoral Supervisor, Wuya Innovation College, Shenyang Pharmaceutical University (Mainland China)

9. Prof. Min YE, Dean and Professor, School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Peking University (Mainland China)

**Session 4: Successful Cases Sharing (Part A)**

10. Prof. KAI Guoyin, Director, Laboratory of Medicinal Plant Biotechnology, Vice Dean, Scientific Research Department, School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Zhejiang Chinese Medical University (Mainland China)

11. Ms. Ivy JIA, General Manager, Tong Han Chun Tang Co. Ltd. (Mainland China)

12. Dr. LIANG Li, Marketing Director (Overseas), China Traditional Chinese Medicine Holdings Co Ltd - Tianjiang Pharmaceutical (Mainland China)

13. Prof. ZHAO Ming, Executive Dean of Pharmacy School, Nanjing University of Chinese Medicine (Mainland China)

14. Prof. SUN Yang, Professor, School of Life Sciences, Nanjing University; Director, Department of Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Sciences, School of Life Sciences, Nanjing University (Mainland China)

15. Mr. Chattarin Ruchawapol, Research and Development Supervisor, Henggengtang Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (Thailand)

**Session 5: Successful Cases Sharing (Part B)**

16. Ms. ZHANG Bingwei, Research Manager, Shanghai R&D Center, Korea Ginseng Corporation (Mainland China)

17. Dr. YUAN Man, Assistant Professor, Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine (Mainland China)

18. Mr. Andy DU Hao, Co-founder and CEO, Ginpact Health (Hong Kong) Company Limited (Hong Kong)

19. Prof. HAN Quanbin, Professor, School of Chinese Medicine, Hong Kong Baptist University (Hong Kong)

20. Ms. LIN Na, Lead Researcher, Institute of Chinese Materia Medica, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences (Mainland China)

21. Prof. XIAN Yanfang Lisa, Assistant Professor, School of Chinese Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (Hong Kong)

**Engaging Hybrid Solutions for Chinese Medicine Professionals**

The Conference was conducted in a hybrid format, running simultaneously in physical and virtual formats. This approach provided greater convenience and flexibility to Chinese Medicine Practitioners and Healthcare Professionals who might not be able to attend the two-day event in person.

To foster audience interaction, Zoom and Pigeonhole were utilised to facilitate Q&A sessions following each speaker's presentation. As a result, a substantial number of questions were collected from both online and onsite participants, reflecting strong engagement and a dynamic exchange of ideas, effectively guided by the moderators.

**Abstracts of Selected Presentations**

**Dr. KO Wing-man, GBS, JP, Chairman, TCM All-sector Hong Kong Centre (Hong Kong)**

Hong Kong's Chinese medicine has developed significantly in recent years. Under the framework of "one country, two systems", Hong Kong becomes an important platform for innovation and internationalisation of Chinese medicine, with great potential in education, scientific research, clinical services, production, testing and certification, trade, and international exchange, etc. As a trading centre for Chinese herbal medicines, Hong Kong attracts buyers from both domestic and internationally, driving market demand growth. Hong Kong's Chinese medicine regulatory system is well-developed, with comprehensive testing and certification services that ensure product safety and enhance credibility, and strengthens international competitiveness, positioning Hong Kong as a key leader in the global Chinese medicine arena.

**Prof. Aiping LYU, Vice-President (Research and Development) cum Dean of Graduate School, Hong Kong Baptist University (Hong Kong)**

A great progress has been made in biotechnology, and there are still some shortages in new drug discovery from natural products. By approaching new biotechnology might be a better way to develop new drugs from natural products. Some new technological approaches, including Protac, aptamer, peptide, gut microbiota, new materials in drug delivery will be discussed for their potential roles in new drug discovery from natural products.

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**Prof. Clara Bik-San LAU, Professor, Department of Pharmacology and Pharmacy & School of Chinese Medicine, LKS Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong (Hong Kong)**

Herbal medicines have long been used worldwide for treating chronic disorders such as cancer. Prof. Clara Lau has been focusing on evidence-based research of herbal medicines and natural products in cancer management for more than two decades. In this talk, she will illustrate the challenges and opportunities of exploring multi-component and multi-target nature of herbal medicines, as well as potentials of lead natural compounds, using various experimental systems of breast and colon cancer. Beneficial evidences from bench to bedside of a medicinal herb for treating esophageal cancer will also be presented. It is anticipated that scientific findings from these studies will support the use of herbal medicines in cancer management and increase the acceptance by cancer patients and cancer care providers.

**Prof. ZHANG Yongwen, Professor, Nanjing University of Chinese Medicine (Mainland China)**

The development of new traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) drugs based on TCM theory represents systematic research oriented toward clinical value. This R&D framework strictly adheres to the "three-pronged" guiding principle (TCM theory, human application experience, clinical trials). For intervention strategies targeting tumor-related indications, TCM-based drug development primarily centers on a "regulatory" therapeutic philosophy.

**Prof. Wenliang LYU, Vice President of Guang'anmen Hospital, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences (Mainland China)**

The pathological progression from liver fibrosis to cirrhosis and ultimately to hepatocellular carcinoma represents a major focus and challenge in the prevention and treatment of chronic liver diseases. Traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) offers unique advantages in delaying or interrupting this pathological process. We have translated theoretical insights on the therapeutic principles of "tonifying Qi and activating blood," as well as "detoxifying and dredging meridians," into evidence-based research, developed a series of representative herbal formulas, and successfully achieved their clinical translation. These efforts have advanced innovation in the integrated treatment of liver diseases through the combination of TCM and Western medicine.

**Dr. Wan Najbah Nik Nabil, Pharmacist, Malaysia (Malaysia)**

Quiescent cancer cells (QCCs) can reversibly enter the G0 phase, allowing them to evade chemotherapy and radiotherapy, which primarily target proliferating cells. Upon reactivation, QCCs may contribute to cancer progression, recurrence, and metastasis. Understanding the mechanisms regulating their survival and reactivation is critical for developing targeted therapies. Four strategies have been proposed: inducing quiescence in proliferating cells, suppressing QCC reactivation, directly eliminating QCCs, and reactivating them to enhance sensitivity to conventional treatments. As tumors consist of both proliferative cells and QCCs, integrating QCCtargeting approaches into clinical practice requires further refinement for optimal therapeutic outcomes.

**Mr. Peeraphong Lertnimitphun, Traditional Chinese Medicine Doctor, HuaChiew TCM Hospital (Thailand)**

Cognitive function refers to the brain's processes involved in planning, concentration, memory, reasoning, decision-making, communication, and intellectual abilities. Impairments in cognitive function, known as Cognitive Deficit or Cognitive Impairment, can disrupt daily life, affecting planning, memory, attention, movement, and communication. Vascular disease, especially stroke, is a major contributor, leading to Vascular Cognitive Impairment (VCI).

In Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), cognitive function is linked to the concept of "Shen" ( 神 ), leading to symptoms similar to Cognitive Impairment. The TCM approach to treating VCI includes herbal medicine, which has shown promise in clinical studies. Various herbal formulas and acupoints have demonstrated efficacy in improving cognitive function and reducing inflammation markers in VCI patients. Additionally, improvements have been observed in assessments such as the Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE) and the Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA).

This review aims to consolidate current knowledge on the TCM treatment of VCI, highlighting the therapeutic potential of herbal medicine and acupuncture in managing VCI.

**Prof. Lixia CHEN, Professor PI and Doctoral Supervisor, Wuya Innovation College, Shenyang Pharmaceutical University (Mainland China)**

The researcher has developed a novel Targeted Degradomics technology based on PROTAC, pioneering the application of PROTAC technology for target identification of traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) components. This achievement provides a new chemical biology tool for "drugto-target" discovery. Integrated with structural pharmacology approaches, the platform has led to the discovery of multiple TCM-

derived lead compounds and candidate molecules targeting antitumor and anti-inflammatory pathways.

**Prof. Min YE, Dean and Professor, School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Peking University (Mainland China)**

A series of biosynthetic investigations have been conducted on pharmacologically active natural products from traditional Chinese medicines that possess complex structures and are challenging to obtain through traditional methods. This study identified a series of key biosynthetic enzymes and elucidated the biosynthetic pathways. Through protein structure analysis, their catalytic functions were optimised, ultimately enabling the complete biosynthesis of bioactive compounds.

**Prof. KAI Guoyin, Director, Laboratory of Medicinal Plant Biotechnology, Vice Dean, Scientific Research Department, School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Zhejiang Chinese Medical University (Mainland China)**

Ovarian cancer (OC), a common malignancy in the female reproductive system, has the highest mortality rate among gynecological cancers. Dihydrotanshinone I (DHT) from Salvia miltiorrhiza, was found to exhibit cytotoxicity against ovarian cancer with unclear mechanism. Here we reported that DHT increased ROS accumulation, decreased mitochondrial membrane potential and activated oxidative stress in OC cells. Proteomic analysis suggests that DHT suppresses OC growth via the autophagy-lysosome pathway, with SORT1 identified as a critical target. CO-IP and CETSA analysis reveal that DHT directly targets and promotes ubiquitination-dependent degradation of SORT1. This positions DHT as a promising therapeutic candidate for OC.

**Ms. Ivy JIA, General Manager, Tong Han Chun Tang Co. Ltd. (Mainland China)**

At the intersection of the “Healthy China” initiative and the global boom in functional foods, traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) is urgently called to transition from the pharmacy cabinet into everyday life.

This report adopts an evidence-based approach to reinterpret the efficacy of Chinese herbs, aligning traditional prescriptions with modern health demands and daily consumption scenarios. It explores the integration of TCM with contemporary trends such as ready-to-eat formats, compound formulations, and digital technologies. Through policy, market, and technology case studies, the report presents a complete pathway from prescription to product, offering a replicable model for the modern

development of TCM in the era of holistic health.

**Dr. LIANG Li, Marketing Director (Overseas), China Traditional Chinese Medicine Holdings Co Ltd - Tianjiang Pharmaceutical (Mainland China)**

After 30 years of development – from pilot research and trial production to full-scale regulation (since 2021) – China's TCM Extract Granules industry has achieved three major breakthroughs:

1. Standardisation Deepened: Chiese Pharmacopoeia released 342 national standards (as of Jan 2025), while provinces established over 700 regional standards, building full-process quality control;
2. Industrial Expansion Accelerated: 73 registered manufacturers nationwide, growing market scale, covered by health plans in 22 provinces, with 13 provinces launching centralised procurement;
3. Global Breakthroughs: Spearheaded ISO/USP standards, exported to 30+ countries, becoming a key driver for TCM's global reach.

Moving forward, it will keep leading high-quality growth across TCM's industrial chain, setting a model case for modernizing traditional medicine.

**Prof. ZHAO Ming, Executive Dean of Pharmacy School, Nanjing University of Chinese Medicine (Mainland China)**

The genus Icacin is restricted to Central and West Africa and possesses diverse ethnomedicinal traditions. It is rich in (9β-H)-pimarane diterpenoids, which are rare in nature. To date, over 70% of the (9β-H)-pimarane-type natural products discovered have been identified by our research team. We have uncovered a series of novel skeleton types and compounds derived from (9β-H)- pimarane diterpenoids from Icacina plants, while also discovering their remarkable biological activities, including plant growth inhibition, antiviral, antitumor, and antimicrobial properties.

**Prof. SUN Yang, Professor, School of Life Sciences, Nanjing University; Director, Department of Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Sciences, School of Life Sciences, Nanjing University (Mainland China)**

（只提供中文版本）
炎症是多種複雜慢性疾病的共性病理基礎，發現並挖掘重大慢病防治的新技術、新手段成為了其團隊長期 研究方向。 本次報告介紹了其團隊在炎症慢性化機制

與化學干預、炎癌轉化等方面的研究成果，以及利 用現代科學解讀中醫藥原理，促進中醫藥傳承創新發展的努力。 報告以具體案例解析入手，詳細介紹了 中藥活性成分靶標確證方法、單細胞多組學科技，展示了這些科技在中藥研究中的應用，如環黃芪醇、大 麻二酚等中藥活性成分的作用機制研究，以及參白解毒方對結直腸腺瘤癌變的抑制作用等。

**Mr. Chattarin Ruchawapol, Research and Development Supervisor, Henggengtang Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. (Thailand)**

Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) is increasingly recognized in Thailand, particularly within the fields of public healthcare and wellness-related services. The regulatory framework and development improved the registration of TCM products in the country. The foundational legislation of medicinal substances, including traditional and herbal preparations, is the Drug Act B.E. 2510 (1967). To promote innovation and streamline regulatory procedures for herbal products, the Herbal Product Act B.E. 2562 (2019) was enacted, emphasizing safety, efficacy, and quality assurance. The Thai Food and Drug Administration (Thai FDA) oversees the registration process, which requires applicants to submit detailed information on manufacturing processes, product composition, and evidence of safety or clinical efficacy. TCM products are classified under modern drugs, traditional medicines, or herbal products. Bilateral cooperation between Thailand and China has played a key role in fostering regulatory harmonization and mutual understanding. Nevertheless, challenges persist, including non-uniform evaluation standards, documentation language issues, and the integration of traditional medical principles with scientific validation. Continued policy advancement and cross-border collaboration are essential to improve regulatory efficiency and to strengthen consumer confidence in TCM products within the Thai context.

**Ms. ZHANG Bingwei, Research Manager, Shanghai R&D Center, Korea Ginseng Corporation (Mainland China)**

The occurrence of colorectal cancer (CRC) is intricately linked to chronic inflammatory conditions such as inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). Red ginseng, as a valuable traditional Chinese medicine, provides a new direction for multi process health management of colorectal cancer patients due to its various biological activities - inhibiting inflammation, neutralizing oxidative stress, modulating immune responses, alleviating fatigue, and restoring balance to gut microbiota. This report synthesises evidence from preclinical animal studies and clinical human trials to comprehensively illuminate red ginseng’s pivotal role in CRC prevention, adjuvant therapeutic synergy, and postoperative recovery.

**Dr. YUAN Man, Assistant Professor, Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine (Mainland China)**

This study evaluated the clinical efficacy of Tuina combined with Flying Eagle Medicated Oil massage in the treatment of non-specific low back pain (NSLBP) through a randomised controlled trial. The results showed that, compared with Tuina with water, the combined therapy was more effective in relieving pain, relaxing muscles, and improving functional outcomes. Infrared thermography and compound profiling further supported its therapeutic potential. The findings suggest that this integrated approach is a safe and effective intervention with promising prospects for clinical application.

**Mr. Andy DU Hao, Co-founder and CEO, Ginpact Health (Hong Kong) Company Limited (Hong Kong)**

The "King of Herbs", wild ginseng, exhibits significant differences in composition and efficacy compared to cultivated ginseng, with price disparities reaching up to ten thousand-fold. By applying advanced fermentation techniques that simulate the natural aging process of wild ginseng over decades, cultivated ginseng can be efficiently upgraded to closely resemble its wild variant in quality. Through branded products, this rare herbal treasure is made accessible to ordinary households.

**Prof. HAN Quanbin, Professor, School of Chinese Medicine, Hong Kong Baptist University (Hong Kong)**

Research on polysaccharides faces three main challenges: 1. Structural identification of polysaccharides; 2. Qualitative and quantitative analysis of polysaccharides; 3. Bioavailability of orally administered polysaccharides. Our research group has conducted exploratory studies on Dendrobium polysaccharides and Astragalus polysaccharides in these three areas. Firstly, based on the research example of Dendrobium polysaccharides, we proposed a purity standard for polysaccharides based on enzyme diagnostics and completed model studies using polysaccharide standards. Secondly, we developed qualitative and quantitative analysis methods based on polysaccharide and oligosaccharide markers, enabling the qualitative and quantitative analysis of specific polysaccharides in herb formulations and biological samples. Finally, using these analytical methods, we discovered a pathway for the intestinal lymphatic absorption of orally administered polysaccharides, providing new insights into the bioavailability of orally administered polysaccharides.

**Ms. LIN Na, Lead Researcher, Institute of Chinese Materia Medica, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences (Mainland China)**

Under the guidance of TCM theory, we carry out research on combination of disease, syndrome and symptoms of chronic osteoarthropathy, aiming to establish a East-meets-West diagnosis system for the advantageous varieties of TCM. Scientific efficacy-connotations of the classic prescriptions and clinically effective prescriptions are explored to develop innovative new TCM drugs. A new technical platform was built for re-evaluation, re-discovery and re-innovation of Chinese patent medicines.

**Prof. XIAN Yanfang Lisa, Assistant Professor, School of Chinese Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (Hong Kong)**

Upper limb problems are prevalent among the general population and often manifest as pain and mobility limitation. This study aimed to evaluate the efficacy and safety of the Vitas Soothing Cream Gel (VSCG) on patients with upper limb problems using a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trial (RCT). A total of 66 participants were recruited and randomly allocated to receive either the VSCG (n = 33) or the placebo (n = 33) for 2 consecutive weeks. The range of motion (ROM) of the shoulder or elbow from the baseline to week 2 and week 4 was used as the primary outcomes. The results indicated that the VSCG treatment significantly increased the elbow extension at week 4 as compared with the placebo group. No significant differences were found in the percentage changes of ROM from baseline to each time point between the VSCG group and the placebo group. The administration of VSCG was found to markedly improve the ROM limitation in patients at weeks 2 and 4 when compared with the those at baseline, including shoulder flexion ($p < 0.01$ for week 2 and $p < 0.001$ for week 4) and shoulder abduction ($p < 0.01$ for week 2 and $p < 0.001$ for week 4). Moreover, the VSCG treatment could significantly improve the Numeric Pain Rating Scale (NPRS) score in patients at week 2 when compared with the placebo group. No overt adverse effects were observed in both of the VSCG and the placebo groups. VSCG was found to be well-tolerated and could effectively ameliorate chronic pain and improve quality of life in patients with upper limb disorders.

## Conference Booklet

To offer attendees deeper insights into the event and its presentations, a dedicated supplementary booklet for ICMCM 2025 was compiled and made available both in print and digital formats. Spanning approximately 50 pages, the booklet features presentation abstracts and concise biographies of the speakers from the main conference.

## Well Recognised Event Approved by Attendees

Over 490 questionnaires were collected from online and onsite audiences. Key findings include:

International Conference of the
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**國際現代化中醫藥及健康產品會議**

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Participants Profile

- 96.9% were Chinese medicine practitioners, healthcare professionals, pharmacologists and pharmacists
- 85.8% held bachelor degree or above
- 54.8% attended ICMCM for the first time

Event Satisfaction

- 90% rated the Conference positively including "Excellent" (47.7%) and "Above Average" (42.3%)

Preferred Event Format

- 50.6% preferred online events to physical events
- 40.3% preferred a hybrid format.

How Participants Discovered the Conference

- 34.6% - eDMs
- 32.8% - Referrals from friends or business partners
- 29% - Supporting Organisation and Collaborating Organisation
- 26.5% - Social media promotion

Areas of Interest

- 71% - "Successful Case Studies" (most popular)
- 69.2% - Academic Research Results
- 30% expressed interest in Global Opportunities, Product Commercialization, and Standards and Regulations

For more information or any inquiries about the Conference, please contact icmcm2025@hktdc.org or (+852) 1830 668.

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