
**Traditional Chinese medicine —
Vocabulary —**

Part 2:
Processing of Chinese Materia Medica

Médecine traditionnelle chinoise — Vocabulaire —

Partie 2: Transformation des matières médicinales chinoises



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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

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For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 249, *Traditional Chinese medicine*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Introduction

Chinese Materia Medica has been around for thousands of years and is widely used as a natural method for processing decoction pieces, healthcare products and natural remedies. The first recorded monograph of Chinese Materia Medica, *Shennong's Classic of Materia Medica (Shen Nong Ben Cao Jing)* in the second century, listed 365 Chinese Materia Medica species, including herbs, animals and minerals. In 1596, the *Compendium of Materia Medica (Ben Cao Gang Mu)* was published with 1 892 Chinese Materia Medica species. Chinese Materia Medica spread from China to its neighbouring countries thousands of years ago and has just found its way to other countries worldwide in recent decades. Today, Chinese Materia Medica has gained popularity and widespread use, with the global Chinese Materia Medica trade steadily growing.

However, no International Standards for Chinese Materia Medica terminology have been published up until now, resulting in almost every Chinese Materia Medica term being translated in several different ways. This has hindered international education, academic exchanges and trade. The need for an International Standard for basic vocabulary for Chinese Materia Medica has become imperative.

This Chinese Materia Medica document is provided to facilitate international academic exchange, research and development, management and trade.

Traditional Chinese medicine — Vocabulary —

Part 2:

Processing of Chinese Materia Medica

1 Scope

This document defines terms for the theory, technology and methods of Chinese Materia Medica processing. It is not applicable to Kampo medicine.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1 General 总论

3.1.1

discipline of Chinese Materia Medica 中药学

branch of knowledge which incorporates the basic theories, sources, origins, collection, processing, properties, functions and clinical application of Chinese Materia Medica under the guidance of traditional Chinese medicine theories

3.1.2

discipline of Chinese Materia Medica processing 中药炮制学

subject that studies the theories, procedure, specifications, quality standards, history and current state of Chinese Materia Medica processing

3.1.3

Chinese Materia Medica 中药

medicinal parts of medicinal plants, animals, and minerals after preliminary processing, which are used as raw materials in Chinese medicines

Note 1 to entry: This includes the raw materials used to make decoction pieces.

Note 2 to entry: Preliminary processing can include washing and drying. Large and bulky items can also be cut into smaller pieces or shorter lengths.

[SOURCE: ISO 18668-1:2016, 3.2, modified — Note 2 to entry added.]

3.1.3.1

raw material 药材

collected unprocessed material