
**Traditional Chinese medicine —
Vocabulary for diagnostics —**

**Part 1:
Tongue**

*Médecine traditionnelle chinoise — Vocabulaire pour les
diagnostics —*

Partie 1: Langue



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Published in Switzerland

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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.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

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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*.

A list of all parts in the ISO 23961 series can be found on the ISO website.

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

Traditional Chinese medicine has become increasingly popular all over the world. Traditional Chinese medicine education has developed rapidly. Traditional Chinese medicine has obtained legal status in the United States, Singapore, Australia, Thailand and other countries and regions. Academic activities of traditional Chinese medicine are increasingly active. International communication of traditional Chinese medicine and medical activities, scientific research, management rules and regulations are in urgent need of International Standards.

First, standardized terminology is essential to standardized products and services. Traditional Chinese medicine diagnostic devices are one of the important contents of traditional Chinese medicine diagnosis. This document aims to encourage improvement of tongue-equipment-related industrial and research fields. All traditional Chinese medicine tongue diagnostic instrument can use the same vocabulary, which is very important for international trade and communication. With standardized terminology, the versatility of tongue-equipment-related products or service can be improved to benefit international technical cooperation.

Secondly, the use of standardized terminology in diagnosis helps to avoid confusion among researchers in the field of tongue diagnosis. But more importantly, the use of standardized terminology in tongue diagnosis also helps manufacturers to deliver standardized meaning with measured tongue images for products. Considering the close association between the traditional Chinese medicine diagnosis and diagnostic medical devices, it is not only necessary but also urgent to standardize the diagnostic terminologies.

Third, the purpose of the project is for the use of traditional Chinese medicine diagnostic instruments and artificial intelligence (AI) medicine. As internet-based medicine is developing very quickly, a standardized terminology is not only important for computerized information but also necessary for successful communication between physicians and patients from different countries. With advances in AI, medical AI doctors also need standardized terminology.

Therefore, it is necessary to standardize tongue diagnostic terminology, which will bring benefits to scholars, governments and enterprises all over the world.

Traditional Chinese medicine — Vocabulary for diagnostics —

Part 1: Tongue

1 Scope

This document specifies the basic terminology and classification of tongue diagnostic methods. Each term of tongue diagnosis includes the English name, the classical Chinese characters and its definition.

The classification structure of tongue diagnosis terms is shown in Figure 1.

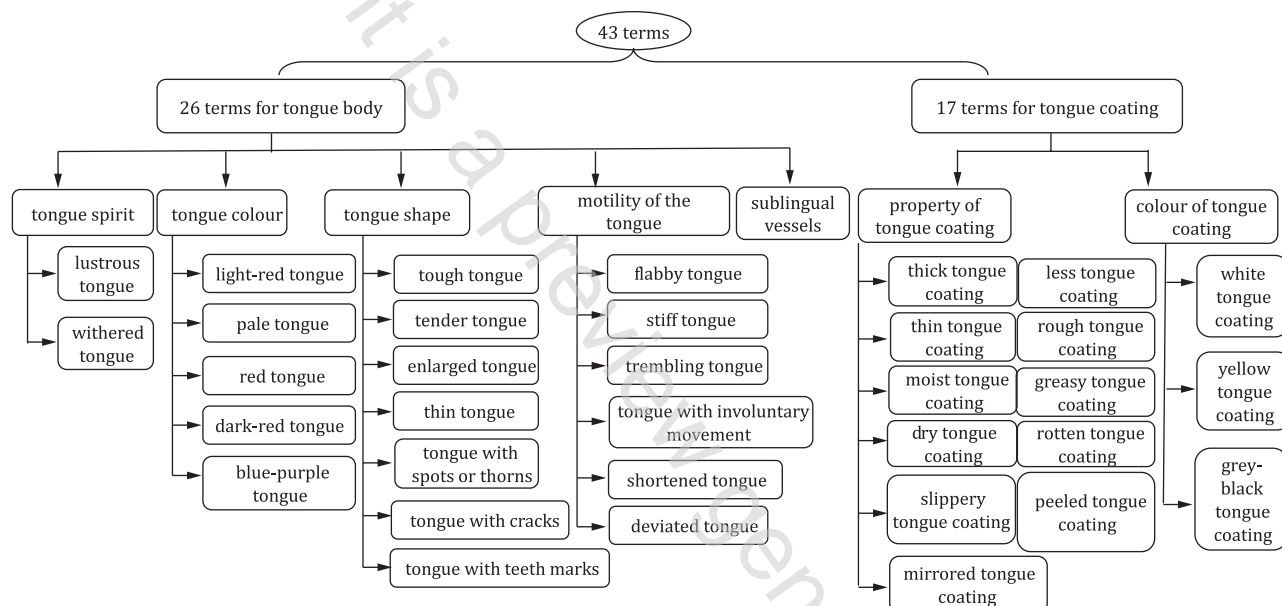


Figure 1 — Classification structure of tongue diagnosis terms

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

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

tongue diagnosis

diagnosis through inspection of the size, shape, colour and moisture of the tongue body and its coating, which helps with understanding the physiological functions and pathological changes of the body