

SINGAPORE STANDARD
Traditional Chinese medicine –
Prescription labelling



Published by

Enterprise
Singapore

SS 614 : 2016
(ICS 11.120.10)

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Prescription labelling**

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ISBN 978-981-4726-42-9

This Singapore Standard was approved by the Biomedical Standards Committee on behalf of the Singapore Standards Council on 5 April 2016.

First published, 2016

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Foreword

This Singapore Standard was prepared by the Working Group on Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) under the direction of the Biomedical Standards Committee.

This standard applies to the prescription labelling on the plastic bag, wrapping paper, bottle or any container for Chinese medicines prescribed to patients by qualified TCM physicians. The standard prescription labels are constructed to administer explicit instructions to patients for the purpose of enhancing the understanding of safe medication usage and promoting medication adherence, as well as to minimise the risk of medication errors.

This standard is expected to be used by TCM practitioners in Singapore.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this Singapore Standard may be the subject of patent rights. Enterprise Singapore shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all of such patent rights.

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Traditional Chinese medicine – Prescription labelling

0 Introduction

Therapeutic medication in the form of tablets, concoctions, herbs and powders are prescribed to patients post Traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) diagnosis. These medications are commonly packaged in re-sealable plastic bags, wrapping papers or bottles for patients. Proper labelling of these prescriptions on their respective packaging is therefore essential.

The nature of the risks involved can be compared to those of western medicine drug prescriptions, e.g. mix-up of medicines and source. Deceptive labelling may also lead to false impressions, misrepresentations and ultimately, miscommunicating information to the consumers. This includes incorrect, inadequate or incomplete identification of medication. Hence, a certain level of clear communication is required to be stated on the medicine prescription labels (e.g. name of clinic, name of patient, name of medicine and application instructions) to facilitate comprehension by patients or caregivers.

1 Scope

This Singapore Standard provides guidelines for the standard prescription labels for users of TCM.

It is applicable to all labels for identification of medicines (including tablets, concoctions, herbs and powders) prescribed by a TCM physician.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references cited in this Singapore Standard.