

**SINGAPORE STANDARD**  
**Traditional Chinese medicine –**  
**Nomenclature for Chinese medicine and**  
**standard formulae**



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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.

Chinese medicines (including medicinal herbs, animal components and naturally occurring elements) and formulae used in TCM have acquired different names across multiple languages. Standardising the nomenclature for Chinese medicines and standard formulae is therefore essential for better communication among practitioners, enhancement of safety standards and expansion of the TCM industry.

This standard may be used as a reference nomenclature for the identification of Chinese medicines and standard formulae in TCM practice, trading, teaching and training. It is not intended to replace or supersede the current regulatory requirements pertaining to the control of Chinese Proprietary Medicines in Singapore.

This standard shall not be taken as an endorsement of any claims made for the Chinese medicines and standard formulae in advertisement or promotion of any TCM practice, medicinal products or health products.

In preparing this standard, reference was made to the following publications:

1. Teng Jialin (2007). *Chinese Materia Medica*. People's Medical Publishing House.
2. Chen Dexing (2007). *Formulae of Traditional Chinese Medicine*. People's Medical Publishing House.

Acknowledgement is made for the use of information from the above publications.

This standard is expected to be used by associations and colleges as resource material for their teaching and training.

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 – Nomenclature for Chinese medicines and standard formulae**

### **0 Introduction**

Medicinal herbs, animal components and naturally occurring elements have been commonly applied as Chinese medicines for centuries. Over the years, these Chinese medicines have acquired unique names from each language. As standardisation of names used across all languages is not possible, a cross reference standard for names in different languages is essential.

This Singapore Standard lists the nomenclature of Chinese medicines and standard formulae commonly used as therapeutics and preventive medications in Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM).

### **1 Scope**

This Singapore Standard compiles the nomenclature for Chinese medicines and standard formulae used in TCM for easy referencing between their respective Chinese, hanyu pinyin, scientific, Latin and common English names.

### **2 Normative references**

There are no normative references cited in this Singapore Standard.