

Connecting West and East

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Valorization addendum

Relevance

In this thesis, an attempt is made to connect Western medicine and Eastern medicine from an energy perspective. Namely, there are opposing forces in both worlds that create energy that flows in a network to fuel life. The relevance and impact of our research to the society is potentially of great influence. The introduction of TCM in the Western markets will bring a lot of business and might improve the Quality of Life for patients.

Target groups

In our research we used a Western pharmacological point of view to try to unravel the mechanism of TCM to make it more acceptable. The similarities in the basic fundamentals between Western and Eastern medicine can be used to better connects both scientifically as well as from a regulatory point of view, so West and East can benefit from each other. Patients and doctors in the West might start thinking about using TCM when the Western medicine fails to be effective or results in too much side effects.

Activities and products

TCM has developed in China over centuries and is used still according to the traditional way. However, in the West some serious side effects have been ascribed to the use of TCM. Our research indicates that this is due to the improper use of TCM and stresses that TCM should be used in the right way, preferably under the supervision of appropriate trained medical professionals.

The redox modulating activity of two key flavonoids was further unraveled on a molecular level in the thesis. A systematic unravelling of more redox modulating bioactives on molecular level can give the fundament for selecting the appropriate redox modulating compound to protect against a specific redox mediated disorder.

Innovation

The dynamic interaction between several herbs in TCM on receptor binding experiments are also - from a Western point of view - unexpected and even contra intuitive. This confirms the dynamic interaction also from the Western point of view and gives new perspective to studying the interaction in TCM.

Understanding the redox modulation of bioactives and using it to predict their impact on health.

Patients and doctors can ultimately decide which type of treatment they prefer for a specific condition. They realize that both have strengths and weaknesses, and are able to select the type that suits a specific patient, situations and illnesses the best.

Planning and realization

Before Western and Eastern medicine are really connected, more research needs to be performed. The energy perspective might form a good basis. The *Jun-Chen-Zuo-Shi* and hard-soft-acid-base concept can be used to study the dynamic interaction of compounds to correct an imbalanced energy. We definitely need to know more about how compounds behave in these concepts. Moreover, there might other ways to connect Western and

Eastern medicine. This thesis provides a new lead that hopefully inspires to keep an open mind in studying medicines of different cultures.