



TO: EDITORS  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# 新聞稿 PRESS RELEASE

## CUHK Builds World's Largest Database of Chinese Medicine and Remedies

The Chinese Medicinal Material Research Centre of The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) has recently signed collaboration agreements with China's National Institute for the Control of Pharmaceutical and Biological Products, and the Institute of Information on Traditional Chinese Medicine of the China Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine on setting up a Chinese medicine database and standardisation of Chinese medicine respectively.

According to Dr. Paul P.H. But, Director of the Chinese Medicinal Material Research Centre, CUHK, "The joint-venture with the Institute of Information on Traditional Chinese Medicine aims at building up the world's largest bilingual computer database in Chinese and English of Chinese medicines and remedies. While the collaboration with the National Institute for the Control of Pharmaceutical and Biological Products targets at establishing standardisation and control methodology of the quality of Chinese medicine through research and consultancy service to Chinese medicine manufacturers."

The Institute of Information on Traditional Chinese Medicine has the largest database of Chinese medicine in China, covering diversified information ranging from specifications of varied types of Chinese medicine to remedies and journals. It provides all data to the Research Centre for incorporation into the Centre's English database on Chinese medicine which was established since 1980 with support from IBM. The collaboration capitalises on the Institute's broad expanse of information and the Research Centre's expertise in scientific research in setting up the world's largest bilingual database of Chinese medicine. The future plan is medicinal practitioners' global access to the database through internet.

The National Institute for the Control of Pharmaceutical and Biological Products is the authorised agency for China's nationwide quality control of pharmaceutical and biological products. The collaboration agreement enables the Institute and the Research Centre's exchange of staff and facilities in carrying out tests and researches leading to standardisation and control methodology for Chinese medicine.

Dr. But further said, "Since its establishment in 1979, the Chinese Medicinal Material Research Centre has been active in promoting the development of Chinese medicine through research and collaborations. In 1995, the Centre received a grant from Industry Department to assist in developing standardisation and control methodology for Chinese medicine in the territory."

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