

was observed that their consumption of analgesics, medications for depression and for constipation (and sedatives) was higher.

Conclusions: While suffering from some diseases such as migraine, arthritis, depression and constipation might lead patients both to make use of CAM therapies and to consume more of some conventional medications, this study indicates that people suffering from chronic cardiovascular problems may have benefited from CAM use, as they consumed less conventional medications, even upon compensating for well-known risk factors and with similar rates of high cholesterol and infarction. Given their long intake period and their considerable side effects, the lower consumption of medications for chronic cardiovascular problems by CAM users deserves further investigations.

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Non-medical TCM therapists' expectations of practising in Switzerland

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Background: In Switzerland, medical doctors as well as non-medical therapists are allowed to practise traditional Chinese medicine (TCM). Non-medical therapists have to complete a part-time education, which takes at least 3 years (for a single method of TCM), and for which they have to pay fully by themselves.

Aim: To learn what therapists were expecting regarding their future work during their education.

Method: In autumn 2011, a written, anonymous survey was distributed amongst the 995 full and 395 student members of the Swiss Professional Organization for Traditional Chinese Medicine, the only society for non-medical TCM therapists in Switzerland. Several sociodemographic questions as well as open questions about expectations of practising (prospectively for student members, retrospectively for full members) and fulfilment of these expectations (only for full members) were asked. Answers to the open questions were assigned independently by two people to one or several categories. Assignments were counted and expressed as percentages.

Results: A total of 151 questionnaires (10.9%) were returned; 78.1% of the responding therapists were female, 21.9% male; 89.4% were full members and 10.6% were student members. On average, they were 43.4 years old and had finished their training in at least one of the five methods of TCM 8 years ago. Most therapists practised two or three methods. The most often expressed expectations belonged to the topics of expertise (31.8%) or self-employment and self-realisation (22.5%); 15.9% stated that they had no expectations. Helping people was mentioned by 12.6% and self-efficacy by 11.3%. Significant correlations were found between the topics of self-employment and self-realisation and support for beginning ($r = -0.172$), expertise and no expectations

($r = -0.258$) as well as working with other people and acceptance ($r = 0.329$). Of the 89 therapists who answered the question about fulfilment, 69.7% found their expectations to be fulfilled, 20.2% partially and 10.1% not fulfilled.

Conclusions: Non-medical TCM therapists in Switzerland were mostly expecting during their training to get expertise, including being able to diagnose patients correctly. They also expressed their expectations towards self-employment and self-realisation including enjoying a new, interesting job.

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PP-121

Diffusion of Integrative and Complementary Medicine (ICM) in Scientific Journals

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Background: In many respects, integrative and complementary medicine (ICM) is a growing scientific field. Increasing numbers of peer-reviewed publications are found, as are a greater share of clinical research, large international congresses devoted to ICM research, specialised ICM journals, improved possibilities to get ICM research funded and ICM research centres established at reputed universities and hospitals. However, there is limited knowledge about what happens with ICM research and how the scientific community receives it. Is ICM research recognised – in terms of being cited – outside a relatively narrow ICM context? If yes, in what medical subfields does this recognition take place? Are there any geographical differences? What kind of ICM research (e.g., concerning subjects) is cited? What is the impact of ICM research?

Aim: In this paper, the diffusion of ICM research is analysed with help from bibliometric methods.

Methods: Empirical material was restricted to published items in 12 ICM journals (in the year 2007), in the Science Citations Index Expanded (SCI-E) database. The journals were identified with help from the subject category 'Integrative & Complementary Medicine' in Journal Citation Report.

Results: Preliminary results indicate a great diversity concerning the diffusion of ICM research. A total of 1575 ICM documents were cited 7 573 times, in almost 1 900 scientific journals. About 25% of the citing documents were classified as 'Integrative & Complementary Medicine'. Other relatively frequent subject categories were 'Pharmacology & Pharmacy' and 'Biochemistry & Molecular Biology'. However, the overall pattern was the great diversity among subject categories. There were also relatively large differences concerning the diffusion from different ICM journals, which can be an indication of high degrees of specialisation. Another pattern is that most of the recognition takes place in journals with relatively low impact factor. The most frequent citing country, according to re-print authors, is USA. However, if looking at larger regions, Asian authors seem to be most frequent in citing the ICM documents.

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