

Research on the Current Status of Overseas Dissemination and Digital Retrieval Strategies of Ancient Traditional Chinese Medicine Literature

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Abstract:

A great number of precious ancient books of traditional Chinese medicine in China have been lost overseas and some books are damaged by worms or soaked with age and environment changes. These books will be confronted with the crisis of being lost again if effective measures are not taken in time to protect them. Thus, the best way to protect ancient books is to accelerate the digitization of ancient books of traditional Chinese medicine. In this context, the paper sorts out the current situation of overseas dispersal and digitization of ancient books of traditional Chinese medicine with literature analysis and network survey method, proposing strategies for getting ancient books back with digitization. The return of ancient books of traditional Chinese medicine to China in the form of digitization will definitely play an important role in promoting the inheritance, innovation, and development of Chinese medicine as well as cultural exchanges between China and foreign countries.

Keywords:

Overseas, Chinese Medical Book, Digital Regression

1. Introduction

General Secretary Xi Jinping has stated that ancient traditional Chinese medicine texts are the wellspring of the essence of traditional Chinese medicine heritage and the core resource for maintaining its authenticity while fostering innovation. Due to factors such as wars, diplomatic relations, and trade, a significant number of precious ancient traditional Chinese medicine texts from China have been lost overseas. To date, the exact number of these lost texts abroad remains unclear. Among them, some have suffered from issues like insect damage and moisture infiltration due to their age and changing environmental conditions. Without prompt and effective protective measures, these texts are at risk of becoming rare or extinct editions. [1] The loss or damage of these invaluable treasures would not only be a loss to Chinese medicine but also a loss to Chinese culture as a whole. Therefore, actively promoting the

retrieval, organization, and in-depth exploration of overseas ancient traditional Chinese medicine texts will play a highly positive role in the inheritance of classical medical knowledge, international academic exchanges in traditional Chinese medicine, and contemporary clinical research in traditional Chinese medicine. [2]

2. The Current Status of Overseas Dissemination of Ancient Traditional Chinese Medicine Texts

Countless valuable ancient traditional Chinese medicine texts from China have been scattered overseas, and among them, a significant portion of rare books and editions are either lost or extremely rare within the country. This can be considered a significant loss to the treasure trove of traditional Chinese medicine. Therefore, since the 1970s, scholars have been conducting investigations and research into the questions of “How many ancient Chinese medicine texts are scattered overseas, and where are they preserved?” Through a review of relevant literature, the overseas distribution of ancient Chinese medicine texts can be broadly summarized as follows:

2.1. Ancient Traditional Chinese Medicine Texts Preserved in Japan

Japan has preserved medical texts from various dynasties dating back to the Han Dynasty. [3] These texts are primarily found in libraries, public and private collections, among other places. The Imperial Household Agency's Shoryo-in Repository houses a collection of 183 volumes and 148 different types of ancient Chinese medical texts, along with 16 scattered Chinese books. Examples include the Song edition of Chao Yuanfang's “Zhubing Yuanhou Lun”, the Yuan edition of Du Sijing's “Jisheng Bacui Fang”, and Shi Son's “Huangdi Neijing Lingshu Jizhu”, among others.[4] The Toyo Bunko (Institute of Oriental Culture) at the University of Tokyo holds two types of ancient Chinese medical texts: one is a single volume of “Jijiu Fang”, mainly sourced from Song Ci's “Xiyuan Jilu”, and the other is a single volume of Tang Duan Chengshi's “Yichang Zhi”, which records an unusual illness.[5] Additionally, the General Library of the University of Tokyo also possesses ancient Chinese medical texts, though the exact number is not specified. These include woodblock editions like the “Xinbian Jin Kui Yao Lue”, “Zhongjing Quanshu”, and “Xinke Huatuo Neizhao Tu”, among others. Kyoto University's Attached Library has created a catalog of the Fujikawa Bunko collection, which is available for online browsing. This catalog includes 12 classic Chinese medicine texts, such as woodblock editions of “Lingshu” volumes one to six, Gong Qingxuan's “Liu Juanzi Gui Yi Fang” from the Tang Dynasty's Bao Li era (1756), and Kou Hengmei's “Quan Youxin Jian” from the Ming Dynasty. However, the exact number of ancient Chinese medical texts held by Kyoto University's Attached Library is not currently known. [6] The Medical Library of Kyushu University holds four types of ancient Chinese medicine texts, totaling four volumes. Ryukoku University's Omi Library houses five types of Chinese medical texts, amounting to 7 volumes.[3] The Osaka Prefectural Library in Japan has two types of ancient Chinese medical texts, comprising two volumes. The National Archives of Japan's Cabinet Library has a collection of Chinese medical texts, mainly from the Yuan and Ming Dynasties onwards. Within this library, there are a total of 1,632 volumes and 11,591 copies of Chinese medical books, excluding duplicates and manuscripts, covering 956 different titles. [7] The Shojaku-do Library in Japan is one of the most extensive repositories of Song and Yuan dynasty editions, with over 1,180 different types of Chinese books. Among them, there are more than 120 Song editions. [8] Due to the original catalog listing Chinese, Japanese, and

Korean books together, it is challenging to determine the exact number of Chinese medical books. The Hosō Library primarily consists of the former holdings of the Ogasawara family. It contains 56 different types of Chinese medical books, such as “Su Wen Xuanji Yuanbing Shi,” “Newly Revised Materia Medica” with 11 volumes, and “Chishui Xuanzhu Yi’an” with 13 volumes. Xingyu Shuwu, affiliated with the Takeda Pharmaceutical Group in Japan, possesses ten types of ancient Chinese medical texts, totaling ten volumes. Examples include the Song edition of “Bencao Yanyi”, the Song edition of “Bei Quan Zong Xiao Fang” (lost in China), and the fragmentary edition of “Waidai Mi Yao Fang” from the Song Dynasty. The Maeda Ikutoku Kai Sojo Kinko Library holds three types of ancient Chinese medical texts, comprising three volumes.

2.2. Ancient Traditional Chinese Medicine Texts Preserved in the United States

Fan Weiyu surveyed of the collection of ancient Chinese medical texts in several American libraries and found that the United States, apart from Japan, holds the largest collection of Chinese-language ancient texts. Most of these texts are housed in various East Asian libraries across the United States. Notable collections include the Gest Oriental Library at Princeton University, the Harvard-Yenching Library at Harvard University, the Library of Congress, and the National Library of Medicine. The Gest Oriental Library at Princeton University has more than 360 types of ancient Chinese medical texts, with a focus on medical books from the Ming and Qing dynasties. The Harvard-Yenching Library at Harvard University primarily collects East Asian literature. [3] According to statistics, the library holds 150,000 volumes of Chinese ancient texts, including 41 types of ancient Chinese medical texts and 2 types of veterinary medical texts. The Library of Congress and the National Library of Medicine in the United States also have a substantial number of ancient Chinese medical texts. However, due to the lack of comprehensive cataloging, it is challenging to determine the exact number of these texts. The University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Library holds a significant number of Chinese ancient texts, mainly in the History Department of the Biomedical Library. There are a total of 30 types of Chinese ancient texts in their collection, with most of them dating from the Qing Dynasty and later.

2.3. Ancient Traditional Chinese Medicine Texts Preserved in Other Countries

Professor Shin Ma Ryu researched the collection of ancient Chinese medical texts in South Korea and Vietnam, summarizing the characteristics of ancient text collections in these two countries. South Korea currently possesses around 300 types of ancient medical texts, with 93 types of Chinese medical books having been reprinted. Vietnam has confirmed the reprinting of at least 15 types of Chinese medical books, primarily from the Ming and Qing dynasties.

Starting in the year 2000, the Ministry of Science and Technology of China initiated efforts to salvage and retrieve lost Chinese medical classics from overseas and conducted research on the topic.[3] Led by authoritative experts in the field of Chinese medical literature, such as Researcher Ma Jixing and Researcher Zheng Jinsheng, a research team visited 130 libraries in 11 countries, including South Korea, the United Kingdom, France, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and others. They compiled detailed information on over 30,000 ancient Chinese medical texts scattered worldwide. Based on this research and a comprehensive survey within China, they identified the types of lost Chinese medical classics within China.[2] According to the

investigation results, a significant portion of the lost Chinese medical classics from China's Ming Dynasty era, approximately one-tenth, ended up abroad. The research team has since copied and retrieved 266 types of overseas Chinese medical classics and has published a selection of 69 of these valuable ancient texts. This retrieval of ancient texts marked the end of a historical period during which many Chinese medical classics drifted overseas, allowing these lost treasures to once again serve the development of traditional Chinese medicine.[2]

3. Digitalization of Ancient Traditional Chinese Medicine Texts Overseas

The Kyoto University Library in Japan was one of the earliest libraries to implement the digitization of ancient texts. Through the Kyoto University Electronic Library's search feature, users can not only search for keywords related to Chinese medical texts, rare books, and ancient texts but also directly access the "Rare Materials Images" section. The electronic library is divided into eight sections, and the scanned copies of most books in these sections are available for online viewing. Among them, the Fujikawa Bunko is particularly relevant to medicine, and it offers access to 12 ancient Chinese medical texts online. [6] The Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia at the University of Tokyo has also undertaken digital initiatives. This institute houses a collection of 3,889 ancient texts, including two Chinese medical texts. Each of these Chinese medical texts is available in both PDF format and as individual color images, and they can be accessed online for free. [5] In China, the research team led by Ma Jixing has transformed the overseas retrieved traditional Chinese medicine classics into electronic books and shared them with the public on CDs. When considering the state of digitization of overseas ancient Chinese medical texts, it becomes evident that most libraries or research teams have primarily focused on digitizing the texts and have not delved deeply into developing digital resources.[1] Therefore, strengthening the in-depth exploration of overseas traditional Chinese medicine texts will facilitate the sharing and utilization of these resources worldwide, providing the necessary documentation support for the dissemination of traditional Chinese medicine culture abroad.

4. The Current Status of Overseas Dissemination of Ancient Traditional Chinese Medicine Texts

4.1. Strengthening International Interlibrary Cooperation to Expedite the Return of Ancient Texts

4.1.1 Establishment of the "International Center for Digital Protection of Ancient Traditional Chinese Medicine Texts"

The National Library of China can take inspiration from the International Dunhuang Project (IDP) digital preservation approach and establish the "International Center for Digital Protection of Ancient Traditional Chinese Medicine Texts" in collaboration with countries such as Japan, South Korea, the United States, Russia, and others. The center can gradually launch language-specific websites, transforming institutions worldwide that house collections of ancient traditional Chinese medicine texts into collaborative partners. The main functions of the "International Center for Digital Protection of Ancient Traditional Chinese Medicine Texts" include:

- a. Establishing unified digital standards for ancient traditional Chinese medicine texts.
- b. Cultivating internationally trained professionals specializing in the restoration and organization of ancient Chinese medical texts.
- c. Creating globally accepted standards for document preservation and restoration techniques.
- d. Developing archives of ancient medical texts held in libraries and collection institutions worldwide and sharing information resources through international databases.
- e. Formulating standardized classification systems for ancient Chinese medical texts, grading criteria for damaged rare books, and rules for cataloging ancient Chinese medical texts.
- f. Selecting optimal storage conditions for documents to minimize human intervention.

4.1.2. Establishment of Unified Digital Standards

Convenient and interoperable digital standards are crucial for the successful digital protection of ancient traditional Chinese medicine texts. Currently, international digital formats vary, with some projects using USMARC and others using CNMARC. Therefore, the “International Center for Digital Protection of Ancient Traditional Chinese Medicine Texts” should leverage its platform role to establish unified digital standards, enabling the sharing of resources internationally. Given the vast collections of ancient traditional Chinese medicine texts overseas, unifying scattered texts from around the world requires the “International Center for Digital Protection of Ancient Traditional Chinese Medicine Texts” to guide relevant institutions housing these texts in collaborative digital projects. Taking into account the unique characteristics of these texts, the center should develop unified digital standards, including rules for cataloging ancient texts, classification methods, digital processing standards, software and database usage, and processing and utilization platforms. [9] Additionally, the protection center should establish uniform and standardized quality assessment criteria for ancient text databases. For example, factors such as the content of the database, service functions, search capabilities, and auxiliary functions can be considered as evaluation criteria for Chinese traditional medicine text databases, laying the foundation for the smooth progress of digitalization efforts. Furthermore, leveraging the platform of the “Digital Protection of Ancient Texts” center, the National Library of China should strengthen business exchanges and personnel visits with foreign university libraries. The digitalization of ancient traditional Chinese medicine texts requires expertise in disciplines such as cataloging, textual criticism, versions, archaeology, linguistics, and computer science. It is a complex and extensive systematic project. Therefore, for foreign libraries interested in undertaking the digitalization of their collections of ancient Chinese medicine texts, the National Library of China can dispatch specialized teams in digitalizing ancient texts to assist in completing digitalization tasks. Additionally, when appropriate, literary exchange activities can be initiated to establish various channels and pathways for future text retrieval efforts.[10]

4.1.3. Establishment of a Digital Catalog Database for Lost Traditional Chinese Medicine Texts

The National Library of China should first rely on the platform of the “Digital Protection of Ancient Texts” center to conduct a survey of domestic and international resources of traditional Chinese medicine texts and establish a unified catalog of ancient text resources. Based on this foundation and in accordance with the unified “Classification Standards for Ancient Chinese Medical Texts” and “Rules for Cataloging Ancient Chinese Medical Texts” established by the “Digital Protection Center”, the results of the resource surveys should be integrated. This will lead to the creation of a “Digital Catalog Database for Traditional Chinese Medicine Texts” with multiple search points such as country of origin, collecting institution, and version type. In recent years, scholars have mainly focused their investigations of overseas traditional Chinese medicine texts on libraries or repositories, overlooking a significant number of such texts scattered among the general public overseas. The scope of privately held ancient texts is unclear, and their specific numbers are unknown. Therefore, active efforts should be made to encourage overseas Chinese nationals to participate in public welfare activities related to the retrieval of ancient texts. Leveraging the strengths of overseas Chinese communities, efforts should be made to collect traditional Chinese medicine texts from private individuals, old bookstores, and book stalls. Additionally, experts and scholars among overseas Chinese communities can liaise with organizations such as the Japan Society of Han Medicine, the Korean Society of Korean Medicine, and the American Association of Traditional Chinese Medicine. Through interviews and discussions, they can engage with private collectors of traditional Chinese medicine texts overseas, gather information about privately held scattered texts, and supplement this data in the catalog database. Furthermore, based on the “Classification Standards for Ancient Chinese Medical Texts”, the data collected in previous surveys should be compiled, categorized, and compared to identify key objects for the protection of traditional Chinese medicine texts. These key objects should be evaluated and graded for their condition. Finally, considering the urgency of protection and the cultural heritage value of these texts, different protection levels and plans should be established. This will lay the foundation for future efforts in the preservation and digitalization of traditional Chinese medicine texts.

4.2. Leveraging Civilian Efforts to Facilitate the Return of Ancient Texts

4.2.1. Accelerating Text Retrieval through Market Purchases

Market purchases represent the simplest and most effective means for the return of overseas traditional Chinese medicine texts. The National Library of China can take the lead, partnering with the Chinese Medical Association and the China Overseas Exchange Association to establish the Overseas Traditional Chinese Medicine Texts Return and Protection Foundation. Leveraging the extensive connections of the China Overseas Exchange Association with overseas Chinese nationals, the foundation can mobilize donations from compassionate individuals and businesses within the Chinese diaspora. The funds raised can then be used to purchase rare editions of traditional Chinese medicine texts. In recent years, through the concerted efforts of the Chinese government and relevant scholars, some traditional Chinese medicine texts have already returned to their homeland. However, there remain precious texts that cannot be retrieved through conventional overseas market acquisition paths due to high market prices or improper preservation methods by overseas institutions, resulting in text damage. In such cases, digitization represents the most effective means of retrieval. Therefore, the Traditional Chinese Medicine Texts Return and Protection

Foundation can consider procuring digital versions of traditional Chinese medicine texts from overseas collectors and institutions. By utilizing digital technology, these texts can be rejuvenated and reintroduced. The Metaverse is a collective term for digital technologies that integrate artificial intelligence, blockchain, cloud computing, digital twins, and more. It offers a novel way to preserve and disseminate ancient texts. The foundation can explore the possibility of building an international shared digital resources Metaverse for the revival and return of traditional Chinese medicine texts. This platform, supported by the Protection Center, can facilitate the digitization and return of these texts. First, it is necessary to integrate these resources. Currently, various types of library and archival institutions obtain digital resources through three main channels: self-owned digital resources, externally acquired resources, and online resources. These resources differ in organizational structure and content format. Therefore, it is essential not only to establish standards such as mappings, integrations, and protocols at the semantic level to achieve semantic connections and interoperability between different types of resources but also to unify the narratives of digital resources from different sources within the same context, facilitating seamless interaction between various scenarios. Next, each type of resource should undergo metadata and ontology-level indexing, and relationships between different entities should be refined based on semantic ontologies. Subsequently, building scenarios based on entities and their associated graphs and constructing various virtual elements becomes feasible. Finally, achieving virtual-to-real interface interactions is crucial. Throughout this entire process, the aggregation of entries within the vast corpus of traditional Chinese medicine texts constructs an extensive knowledge system. This knowledge system can analyze, track, and filter readers' points of confusion and questions, ultimately forming a knowledge chain. For instance, when a user is browsing the third section on Lily Disease in the Metaverse, and touch the term "Lily Disease" within the text, the relevant annotation for that term immediately appears. In addition to annotations, the Metaverse uses technologies such as digital twinning, 3D modeling, and augmented reality to showcase the main symptoms of a patient with "Lily Disease" in their daily life. It also provides detailed explanations of the dialectical treatment and traditional Chinese medicine prescriptions for "Lily Disease". Furthermore, if the reader wants to examine the composition of various traditional Chinese medicine prescriptions for "Lily Disease", the Metaverse will promptly display the morphology of medicinal herbs and the dosages of various herbal ingredients. By tapping on three-dimensional images of these herbs, users can not only understand the properties, tastes, meridian affiliations, effects, and pharmacological actions of the herbs but also access related knowledge links generated by the Metaverse, such as processing methods for herbal medicine, health information related to the herbal medicine, groups of prescriptions containing the herbal medicine, and clinical cases involving the use of the herbal medicine. Through in-depth exploration of ancient texts, it becomes possible to truly utilize the vast corpus of traditional Chinese medicine texts to meet real-world needs in areas like academic research and cultural exchange.

4.2.2. Creating a Gamified Ancient Text Donation Model

Currently, it is unclear how many ancient Chinese medicine texts are still held by individuals in overseas communities. The Traditional Chinese Medicine Ancient Texts Repatriation and Preservation Foundation can collaborate with the "Digital Preservation of Ancient Texts" center to create a gamified incentive model to encourage donations of these ancient texts from overseas Chinese communities. The

metaverse shares several similarities with online gaming, such as strong social connections, creative freedom, and immersive experiences. Therefore, a gamified donation system is a suitable application within the metaverse environment. [11] Leveraging technologies like VR, AR, MR, and artificial intelligence, the metaverse integrates the gaming experience with the act of donation, enhancing donors' immersion in the process and making donation activities more enjoyable and innovative. In this context, a game-like quest system can be integrated into the metaverse donation process. Before embarking on their quest, donors can choose various elements like historical character avatars, costumes, periods, and related products, allowing them to personalize and enhance the entertainment value of the donation activity. For each ancient text donated (including details like the title, a summary of the content, specific information about its current location, and a photo of the cover), a new game level is unlocked. Each level presents a gaming challenge, primarily related to traditional Chinese medicine knowledge. Only donors who successfully pass the first level's challenge can earn a badge and proceed to the next level. The difficulty of the game increases as donors progress through the levels, and multiple donors contributing ancient texts can participate in these challenges simultaneously. At the end of each quarter, the donor with the most badges becomes the "Donation Champion" for that period. These "Donation Champions" will receive an honorary certificate from the Traditional Chinese Medicine Ancient Texts Repatriation and Preservation Foundation. This innovative donation approach breaks away from traditional charity models and encourages donors to actively participate and contribute.

4.2.3. Utilizing Blockchain Technology for Donor Rights Confirmation

Blockchain technology within the metaverse can create a secure, tamper-proof, and traceable data structure. By implementing this technology, it becomes possible to prevent tampering with the digital resources uploaded by ancient text donors, trace their transactions and distribution, and facilitate rights confirmation, storage, and circulation of digital resources. Before users upload digital resources of ancient texts, the system should first require users to establish a digital identity and merge it with their real-world identity. A digital identity is a user's symbol in the metaverse, often represented as a digital code or blockchain address. It records a user's activities, transaction history, digital contributions, social relationships, creative knowledge, and all other information within the metaverse. It serves as the foundation for all digital activities in the metaverse. In the Metaverse, a digital identity should meet three key characteristics:

- a. Integration: It should connect the realms of identity, credit, data, and assets, seamlessly integrating with various metaverse applications.
- b. User Control: It should be independent and entirely controlled by the user, meaning users have the autonomy to decide the extent of authorization.
- c. Privacy: It should maintain user privacy. To provide services within the metaverse, comprehensive user data is collected, including social relationships, interpersonal interactions, identity attributes, emotional states, brainwave patterns, and more. This information is then gathered, categorized, and used to determine user permissions based on their digital identity.

However, if a user's personal information is leaked, it can severely impact their normal life in the real world. Therefore, in the metaverse space, users need identities that are more privacy-oriented. This can be achieved in two ways.

a. Using a well-known browser plugin wallet like Metamask to manage a user's digital identity. Metamask is essentially a blockchain-based digital identity manager. It helps users manage their digital identities, which consist of two parts: an address and a private key. The process of creating a digital identity with these two components is as follows. During registration, users are not required to link their personal email or phone number. Instead, the computer system can generate a private key randomly. Users must ensure that their private key remains confidential, typically by keeping it stored only on their local machine and not uploading it to the internet. The system then uses the private key to compute the corresponding public key and subsequently generates an address. This address serves as the user's publicly visible digital identity on the blockchain. By following this process, users retain control over their identity. They can choose which applications to authorize for login, which applications can access their personal assets and data, and even modify or revoke authorizations as needed. Only users with access to the private key can invoke their own identity, while others cannot perform identity-related operations without access to the private key.

b. Drawing inspiration from the practice during the COVID-19 pandemic, where individuals in Macau applied for a Macau Health Code using their Guangdong Health Code. In 2020, after the COVID-19 situation stabilized, Macau reopened, allowing tourists to enter as long as they presented a negative nucleic acid test result and applied for a Macau Health Code using their Guangdong Health Code. This cross-region recognition between Macau and Guangdong Health Codes involved some technical difficulties. Firstly, the generation and usage of health codes needed to comply with the relevant regulations concerning personal privacy protection and data security in both regions. Personal data from mainland China (Guangdong) and Macau could not be directly transferred across regions. Secondly, the data from both regions couldn't be transferred across regions. Without relying on a third-party platform, it was challenging to verify the authenticity and validity of the information. The two regions primarily addressed the issue of "cross-region application without data transfer" through blockchain and privacy computing. This means that Macau Health Codes and Guangdong Health Codes can be generated and used without any data transmission in the background. This approach not only complies with the relevant regulations in both regions but also ensures the security and privacy of users' information. This approach can be applied to the operation of the metaverse, where privacy computing can be extensively used. It allows for the "verifiability without obtainability" of the digital identity of donors, fully protecting individual privacy. When a donor uploads a digital resource, the blockchain can generate an NFT (Non-Fungible Token) representing ownership of that resource. It can also authorize access to other readers within the metaverse. Here's how it works:

- a. Readers must request access from the donor.
- b. All blocks will obtain balance and transaction information from both the donor and readers for verification.
- c. The first block to successfully verify will have the opportunity to broadcast this transaction to the entire network.

d. Once all blocks have passed verification, the transaction is completed, creating a legitimate record.

All data circulation, authorization, and transactions occur on the blockchain, ensuring clear ownership and tamper resistance. Therefore, each donor can be the owner of their data and reap related benefits.

5. Conclusions

Ancient Chinese medical texts represent the invaluable wisdom accumulated by the Chinese nation over thousands of years. They play an immeasurable role in the inheritance and development of traditional Chinese medicine. However, due to historical reasons, many of these ancient Chinese medical texts are scattered abroad, and some have already been lost or are on the brink of extinction within China. The presence of numerous classical texts in overseas libraries or private institutions that cannot be accessed or utilized hinders the inheritance and development of traditional Chinese medicine.

In recent years, the rapid development of digital and internet technologies has provided new avenues for the excavation, preservation, utilization, and return of ancient Chinese medical texts. This has allowed the vast and extensive body of Chinese medical classics, previously unknown overseas, to digitally return to the Chinese homeland. This development will certainly play a significant role in promoting the innovation and development of traditional Chinese medicine, as well as fostering cultural exchanges between China and the rest of the world.

Conflicts of Interest

The author declares that there is no conflict of interest regarding the publication of this article.

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