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Adulteration of the traditional Chinese medicines in Taipei city

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To protect the public medication safety and health rights, Department of Health, Taipei City Government undergoes inspection of products providing from the Chinese medicine clinics and Chinese medicine pharmacies (stores) in Taipei City annually, such as the components of the Chinese herbal preparations, the preparations of traditional formulas and the original Chinese medicine materials.

In this study, we inspected the adulteration prevalence of samples which were collected from the Chinese medicine clinics and Chinese medicine pharmacies (stores) in Taipei City from 2011 to 2014. Samples were analyzed mainly according to their sources, components and types of assays. The results of 372 traditional Chinese medicines showed that 2.42% (9/372) of the samples were adulterated. The sources of samples were classified into two groups, one was obtained from the regular inspection of Department of Health randomly and the other came from the general public. There were 292 samples from regular inspection of Department of Health randomly and showed the adulteration rate was 0.68% (2/292). The 80 samples came from the general public showed the adulteration rate was 8.75% (7/80). Among 9 adulterated samples, 5 samples were collected from the Chinese medicine clinics, 2 samples were collected from the Chinese medicine stores, and 2 samples were collected from illegal suppliers. The study results showed the approximate status of adulteration of Chinese medicines in Taipei City and that would be considered as the reference of inspection program in future.

Biography

Wei-ju Chen has completed her graduation from Taipei medical University. Currently she is working as Technician in Department of Health, Taipei City Government, Taiwan-R.O.C.

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