

# **LOCAL TRADITIONAL DRUG DEVELOPMENT: PROBLEM ON QUALITY CONTROL-CASE STUDY FROM THAILAND**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Drug is one of the four major requirements of human beings. Drug production has a very long history and the traditional drug production system is interesting. An important problem regarding the traditional drug production is the quality control. Here, the authors discuss on this specific issue with specific reference on the present situation from Thailand, a tropical country in Indochina.

**KEYWORDS:** Quality, Control, Traditional, Drug, Production.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Drug is one of the four major requirements of human beings. Drug production has a very long history and the traditional drug production system is interesting. An important problem regarding the traditional drug production is the quality control. Here, the authors discuss on this specific issue with specific reference on the present situation from Thailand, a tropical country in Indochina.

## **CASE STUDY**

In Thailand, the production of traditional drug is little controlled. Very few traditional drug regimens are scientific studied, proven and legally produced. Several locally produced traditional drugs are produced without a good control and some drugs are considered fake and illegally produced by bad produced.

It is no doubt that the traditional drugs without pharmaceutical proof are sold in public health, especially at the pagoda.

## **DISCUSSION**

Lack of scientific evidence is the common problem in alternative medicine. For the production of the traditional drug, the big consideration is the quality of the drug [1]. Although there are many good classical traditional drug regimen, there are also newly fake claimed traditional drug. There are also many reports on the adverse effect due to the use of uncontrolled traditional drug products in Thailand. The contamination of unwanted substances such as heavy metals is common [2].

To produce a good traditional drug, there must be a good legal control and there must be the pharmaceutical proof. The system has to be implemented and there must be a good surveillance system on the illegal production. Since the poor quality drug might result in danger, there is an urgent need for management of the problem.

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Figure 1. Example of a traditional drug sold without control at a pagoda in Thailand

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** None

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