
**Health informatics — Categorical
structures for representation of
acupuncture —**

**Part 3:
Moxibustion**

iTeh STANDARD PREVIEW
*Informatique de santé — Structures catégoriques pour la
représentation de l'acupuncture —
Partie 3: Moxibustion*
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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2. www.iso.org/directives

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For an explanation on the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the WTO principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see the following URL: [Foreword - Supplementary information](#)

This document was prepared by ISO/TC 215, *Health informatics*.

A list of all the parts in the ISO 16843 series can be found on the ISO website.

Introduction

Acupuncture therapy is widely practised as a part of complementary and alternative medicine treatments in western countries. Moxibustion is a therapeutic procedure using ignited material to apply heat to certain points or areas of the body surface for treating diseases through regulation of the functions of meridians/channels and visceral organs.

A guideline for reporting acupuncture intervention in clinical trials has already been provided and a large number of clinical trials have been conducted to assess the efficacy and efficiency of acupuncture therapy. However, the descriptions of moxibustion as an acupuncture intervention in clinical reports tend to be insufficient for interpretation of heterogeneity among trials, often causing difficulties in synthesizing data in meta-analysis. This arises from three reasons:

- a) an appropriate information structure of moxibustion is not formulated;
- b) peculiar concepts within traditional medicine in the western pacific-rim region originated in China are not considered sufficient;
- c) semantic associations between concepts of moxibustion need to be explicit.

This document defines the categorial structures in the field of moxibustion in order to solve these existing problems.

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Health informatics — Categorial structures for representation of acupuncture —

Part 3: Moxibustion

1 Scope

1.1 Main purpose

This document aims to specify categorial structure in the field of moxibustion by defining a set of domain constraints for use within terminological resources.

This document describes a concept system detailing domain constraints of sanctioned characteristics, each composed of a semantic link and applicable characterizing categories.

Specification of categorial structures for representation of acupuncture points and other sites of the body, indications, prohibition and effect are out of the scope of this document.

The potential uses for this document include:

- supporting developers to provide new terminological systems concerning moxibustion;
- supporting developers to provide new detailed content areas of existing terminological systems concerning the moxibustion process to ensure its conformance;
- facilitating the representation of the moxibustion process using a standardized core model in a manner suitable for computer processing;
- providing a conceptual framework for the generation of a compositional concept representation of moxibustion;
- facilitating the mapping and improved semantic correspondence between different terminologies by proposing a core specification for moxibustion;
- providing a core model to describe the structure of moxibustion, and facilitate improved semantic correspondence with information models;
- providing a tool for moxibustion text mining, database construction, ancient document processing over a wide area of acupuncture information collection and processing;
- providing a new method for researchers to conduct relevant research, and ideas for the development of acupuncture and moxibustion disciplines.

1.2 Target groups

The target groups for this document are:

- developers of terminological systems;
- developers of information systems that require a structured framework of concepts to facilitate implementation and communication;
- informaticians and analysts who require common models of knowledge to facilitate analysis of current and legacy data from one or more information systems;

- clinicians and coders to provide greater consistency in structure and organization when entering and retrieving data using one or more terminological resources.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>
- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>

3.1

moxibustion

therapeutic procedure involving ignited material [usually *moxa* (3.3)] to apply heat to certain points or areas of the body surface for curing disease through regulation of the function of meridians/channels and visceral organs

[SOURCE: WHO IST 2007, 5.2.1]

3.2

moxa floss

cotton-like material for *moxibustion* (3.1) made from mugwort leaves

[SOURCE: WHO IST 2007, 5.2.3]

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3.3

moxa

plant from which *moxa floss* (3.2) is prepared

[SOURCE: WHO IST 2007, 5.2.2]

3.4

moxa cone

cone-shaped *moxibustion* material (see 4.2.6) made of *moxa floss* (3.2) for *moxibustion* (3.1)

[SOURCE: WHO IST 2007, 5.2.4]

3.5

moxa cone moxibustion

moxibustion (3.1) with an ignited *moxa cone* (3.4) either directly on the skin or indirectly using an insulating medium

Note 1 to entry: See 4.2.2.

[SOURCE: WHO IST 2007, 5.2.5, modified]

3.6

direct moxibustion

moxibustion (3.1) in which an ignited *moxa cone* (3.4) is applied directly to the skin surface at certain points or areas of the body surface

[SOURCE: WHO IST 2007, 5.2.6]

3.7**indirect moxibustion**

moxibustion (3.1) performed by placing some insulating material between the *moxa cones* (3.4) and the skin

[SOURCE: WHO IST 2007, 5.2.8]

3.8**moxa stick**

round long stick made of *moxa floss* (3.2)

[SOURCE: ISO/TS 18666:2015, 3.6]

3.9**moxa stick moxibustion**

moxibustion (3.1) with an ignited *moxa stick* (3.8)

[SOURCE: WHO IST 2007, 5.2.13]

3.10**warm needling therapy**

therapy involving warm needling *moxibustion* (3.1) that uses a warm needle as a moxibustion device (see 4.2.3)

[SOURCE: WHO IST 2007, 5.2.30]

3.11**moxa burner**

receptacle as a moxa device (see 4.2.5) designed to hold burning *moxa floss* (3.2)

[SOURCE: WHO IST 2007, 5.2.31]

3.12**moxa burner moxibustion**

moxibustion (3.1) with a *moxa burner* (3.11) as a moxa device (see 4.2.5) to hold the ignited *moxa floss* (3.2)

[SOURCE: WHO IST 2007, 5.2.32]

3.13**electro-moxibustion**

moxibustion (3.1) using a non-moxa device (see 4.2.4) and electrical dermal stimulation used in place of *moxa* (3.3)

[SOURCE: WHO IST 2007, 5.2.36]

4 Categorical structure**4.1 General**

Moxibustion in the context of this document is one part of moxibustion treatment, one of multiple moxibustion actions to the moxibustion sites. The formal concept representation system in the field of moxibustion has semantic links to the following characterizing categories and semantic links among them.

The outline of those characterizing categories and semantic links is illustrated in a concept diagram in [Figure 1](#).

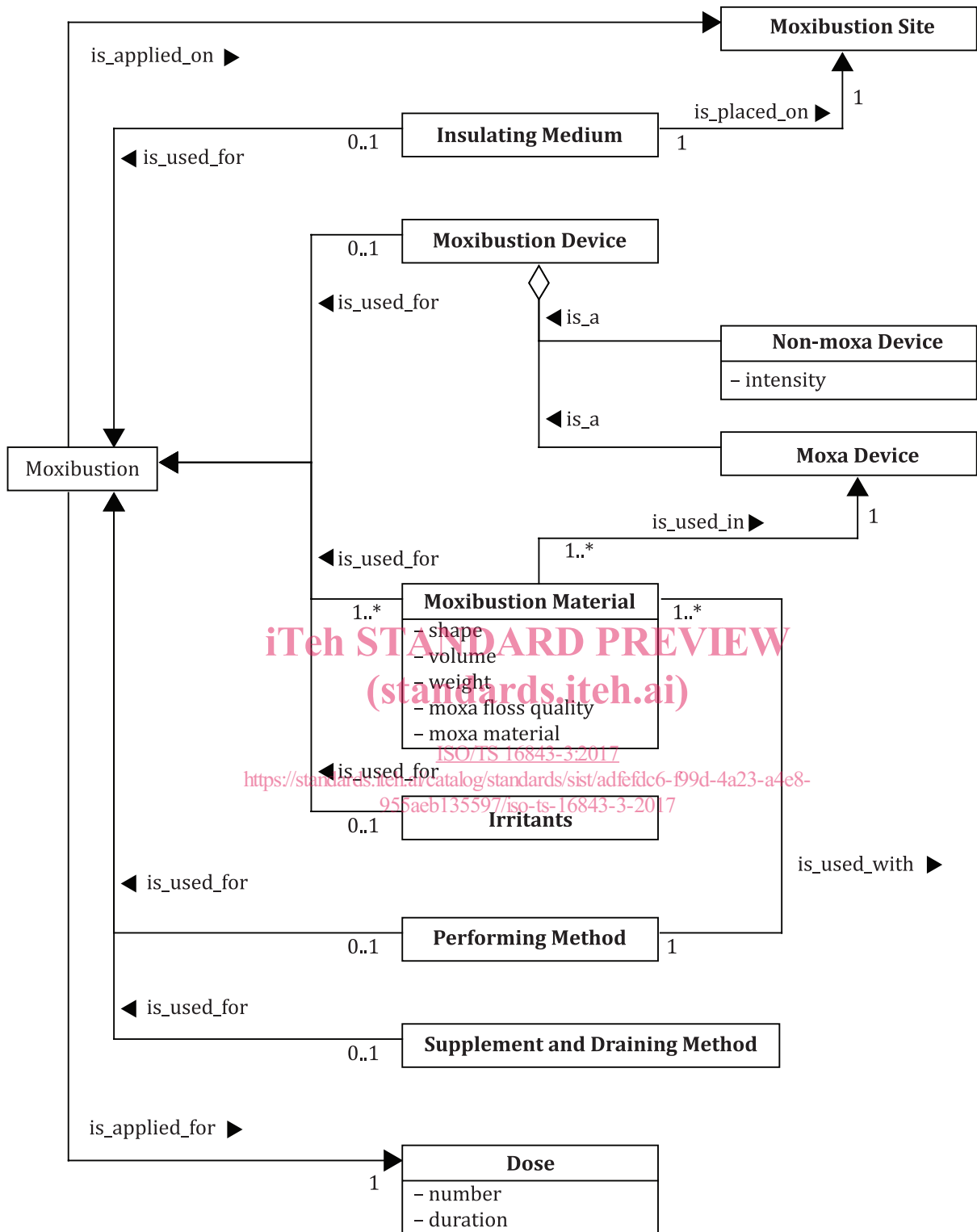


Figure 1 — Concept diagram for representation of moxibustion

4.2 Characterizing categories

4.2.1 Moxibustion site

Certain points or areas of the body surface to which moxibustion (3.1) is applied.

4.2.2 Insulating medium

The material used for insulation during indirect moxibustion (3.7).

EXAMPLE 1 Ginger, garlic, salt, prepared aconite, black pepper, red clay [WHO IST 2007, 5.2.9 to 5.2.11].

EXAMPLE 2 Layer(s) of cloth or paper for pressing moxibustion [WHO IST 2007, 5.2.24].

4.2.3 Moxibustion device

A piece of apparatus that uses moxa floss (3.2) as the main combustion material in a traditional way or provides heat instead of moxa floss (3.2).

EXAMPLE Moxibustion tube.

NOTE A moxibustion tube is a type of moxibustion device, such as a short moxa stick with a cardboard base and a moxa tube (made of cardboard) that is single use and developed as an alternative to direct moxibustion. Moxibustion devices include those accessories as defined by the manufacturers that are necessary to enable the normal use of moxibustion devices.

4.2.4 Non-moxa device

A piece of apparatus that does not use moxa floss (3.2) as a source of heat; a device used in place of the moxibustion device (4.2.3) to achieve the desired effect.

EXAMPLE Far-infrared radiation, electro [WHO IST 2007, 5.2.36].

NOTE A non-moxa device has a function of controlling its intensity. Intensity is an instance of magnitude of applied strength or power for non-moxa moxibustion.

4.2.5 Moxa device

A piece of apparatus that uses moxa floss (3.2) as the main combustion material and intended for single or repeated usage.

EXAMPLE Moxibustion tube, moxa burner [WHO IST 2007, 5.2.31].

NOTE A warm needle can be used for warm needling therapy (3.10) as a moxa device.

4.2.6 Moxibustion material

Combustible material comprising mainly moxa floss (3.2) and used in moxibustion (3.1) [ISO 18666:2015, 3.2].

EXAMPLE Moxa cone, moxa stick [WHO IST 2007, 5.2.4 and 12].

NOTE 1 The shape could be a cone, a stick, a cylinder, or a grain.

NOTE 2 The volume of this is double value.

NOTE 3 The volume could be calculated using its size or it could be measured.

NOTE 4 The mass could be measured and the hardness could be represented by its volume and weight.

NOTE 5 Quality of moxa floss (3.2) can be defined in various ways and its quality has an effect on the supplement and draining method (4.2.9).

4.2.7 Irritant

A substance that causes blistering and local congestion.