



**International
Standard**

ISO 18977

**Traditional Chinese medicine —
Requirements for herbal dispensing
services**

*Médecine traditionnelle chinoise — Exigences relatives aux
services de délivrance de plantes médicinales*

**First edition
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ISO copyright office
CP 401 • Ch. de Blandonnet 8
CH-1214 Vernier, Geneva
Phone: +41 22 749 01 11
Email: copyright@iso.org
Website: www.iso.org

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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 document should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 249, *Traditional medicine*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Traditional Chinese medicine*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

Traditional Chinese medicine — Requirements for herbal dispensing services

1 Scope

This document specifies the safety and quality requirements for herbal dispensing services. It is applicable to facilities related to large-scale herbal dispensaries, in-house hospital dispensaries and medium to large commercial dispensaries.

It does not apply to dispensing services in medical clinics where herbal preparations are dispensed to patients by or under the supervision of the prescribing practitioners. The specifications regarding tools and equipment used in these services are excluded.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 22217, *Traditional Chinese medicine — Storage requirements for raw materials and decoction pieces*

ISO 21371, *Traditional Chinese medicine — Labelling requirements of products intended for oral or topical use*

3 Terms and definitions

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

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

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

3.1

herbal medicine dispensary

place where *medicinal herbs* (3.3) are either traditionally processed or prepared into decoctions or other dosage forms, or both, in accordance with prescriptions or in-pharmacy formulation guidelines, and subsequently dispensed

Note 1 to entry: This term does not include dispensing services provided within medical clinics where herbal preparations are dispensed directly to patients by, or under the supervision of, the prescribing practitioners.

3.2

dispensing

process by which *medicinal herbs* (3.3) are traditionally prepared through cleaning, cutting, roasting, steaming, or other processing techniques, and subsequently extracted, decocted, or formulated into specific dosage forms according to an individualized prescription or standardized in-pharmacy formulation

3.3

medicinal herb

material collected from plants, minerals or animals, processed or to be processed for use as raw material for *finished herbal preparations* (3.6)