

From acupuncture to the many hundred different medical herbs – Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) is booming. And it is effective: TCM has been practised successfully for more than 4000 years, and the Western demand for something to complement classical Western medicine has been increasing for years. Graz is going to play a central role in TCM research in future: the „**TCM Research Center Graz**“ was founded in early March 2007 by **Karl-Franzens-University Graz** and the **Medical University Graz**, and subsequently a competence center that is unique worldwide should come into being and pool the numerous national and international activities in the fields of TCM research and teaching.

Dealing with acupuncture and Chinese medical herbs has a long tradition in Graz: **Prof. Rudolf Bauer**, head of the Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences at Karl-Franzens-University, has been researching the active pharmaceutical ingredients and quality of Chinese medicinal herbs for 18 years. **Prof. Gerhard Litscher**, head of the Research Unit of Biomedical Engineering in Anesthesia and Intensive Care Medicine at the Medical University of Graz, has dedicated himself to the research of acupuncture using the latest high-tech methods since 12 years. For both, scientific work is the basis for modernization of TCM: „TCM is a kind of medicine that can be evaluated scientifically“, says Rudolf Bauer, „it possesses comprehensible diagnostic methods and uses precise and controllable therapies.“ So, all research work is done based on scientific methods. Gerhard Litscher: „We are interested in basic research and those aspects of TCM that have not been given much attention so far, for example the quantification of new acupuncture techniques such as the painless laser needle acupuncture and electro acupuncture. Possible effects of acupuncture in combination with other methods are also subject to scientific research.“

Text: Gudrun Pichler

Herbal Medicine Research

- Development of quality control methods for Chinese herbs
- Drafting of monographs for the European Pharmacopoeia
- Development of herbal medicinal products and dietary supplements
- Pharmacological activity and clinical efficacy on the basis of Evidence Based Medicine
- Safety and pharmacovigilance studies
- Isolation of new lead structures

Acupuncture Research

- High-Tech Acupuncture® Research
- Computer-Controlled Acupuncture®
- Development of innovative acupuncture stimulation methods (laser-, needle-, electroacupuncture)
- Methods for the quantification of peripheral and central effects of acupuncture
- Modernization of acupuncture (evidence-based medicine, laser needle medicine)
- Scientific evaluation of complementary medical methods (acupuncture, acupressure, Qigong, moxibustion, laser therapy)

Supported by:



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Graz



<http://tcm-graz.at>

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- Herbal Medicine Research

- Acupuncture Research



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