

Research on History of Medicine in China in the Last Five Years

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Abstract Since 1999, progress has been made, to varying degrees, in numerous areas of medical history research in China, including history of TCM, history of Western medicine, history of integrated Chinese and western medicine, history of medicine of Chinese minorities, history of medicine of foreign countries, history of medical exchanges between China and other countries, and history of comparative medical history. Among others, the number of articles on history of diseases, history of specific medical disciplines, modern medical history, medical biographies, medical works, contemporary medical history, and history of medical culture has increased dramatically. In the field of history of diseases, the papers deal with diseases in gynecology and obstetrics, plague, lanhousha (scarlet fever), and nephritis; articles in the field of specific disciplines deal with history of acu-moxibustion, history of prescription-forms, and history of gynecology, endoscopic surgery, and evidence-based medicine. There are even distinguished papers appeared in these aspects. In the aspect of modern medical history, there are papers dealing with the development of TCM, the introduction of Western medicine into China, with some specific researches in these fields. Medical biographies include Tan Yunxian, Quan Shaoqing, Du Chongming etc. Papers on medical works deal with the ancient unearthed literatures lost yet spread abroad, medical classics, canons on materia medica, cold-pathogenic diseases, and formularies. While papers on history of medical culture discuss basically the influence of Confucianism, Taoism, Buddhism and I-discipline on Chinese medicine. During these five years, 300 original articles have been published in *The Chinese journal of Medical History*, with another 200 papers published in Chinese journals in other fields. Forty monographs have been published and important ones are *A General History of Chinese Medicine*, *Modern history of TCM*, *The Historical Development of Acupuncture*, *A General History of Tibetan Medicine*. For the coming years, the stress points should be laid on the research on history of diseases, history of specific medical disciplines, and some specific academic topics. In addition, the weak points in the research fields of theoretical problems in studies of medical history, medical history of Chinese minorities, medical history of communication between China and foreign countries, comparative study on medical history, and the study on history of medical culture should also be regarded and strengthened continually.

Key Words China; History of medicine; Research; Summary

In the five years since 1999, progress has been made, more or less, in the research work in medical history in China, including history of TCM, history of Western medicine, history of integrated Chinese and Western medicine, history of medicine of Chinese minorities, history of medicine of foreign countries, history of medical exchanges between China and other countries, and history of comparative medical history. And the number of articles on history of diseases, history of specific medical disciplines, modern medical history, medical biographies, medical

works, contemporary medical history, and history of medical culture has increased dramatically. The research work in ancient medical history is still progressing forcefully.

1. Research on history of diseases

In the last ten years ever since 1994, scholars have paid close attention to the research work in history of diseases. During last five years, 10 articles have been published only in *The Chinese Journal of Medical History*, dealing with diseases in gynecology and obstetrics, plague, lanhousha (scarlet fever), and nephritis, etc. Such as Research on the Plague Epidemic in Guangzhou (Canton) in 1894 written by Lai Wen (1999; 4:) and History of Nephritis written by Zhang Qianjin (2001; 1:) etc. Meanwhile, related articles have been published in other Chinese journals, such as Concerning the Disease Jiao Qi in Ancient China and its Historical Research published in *Studies in the History of Natural Science* by Liao Yuqun (2000; 3:). *The History of Gynecology and Obstetrics Diseases of TCM in Ancient Times* written by Zhang Zhibin (2000; 1:) is an excellent work in this field, which has combined history and theory, been published in Beijing in 2000. The author has divided the whole history of gynecology and obstetrics into the Pre-Qin dynasty (early cognition), Han-Tang period (experience accumulation), Song-Jin-Yuan period (systematization of theory), and Ming-Qing period (improvement of theory), and summarized the process of cognition and development of gynecology and obstetrics diseases of TCM in 2000 years comprehensively.

There has been a noticeable improvement in researching on external history of diseases in Taiwan. In July 1997, Life and Medicine Office was set up in Institute of History and Philology of Taiwan Academia Sinica. The office researches mainly on history of medical development from the sociological angle and carries out a series of academic activities. And in June 2000, conference on History of Diseases was held in Taipei. Thirty scholars from America, Japan, Korea, mainland and Taiwan attended the meeting and discussed the relationships between disease, mankind and society. Eighteen articles on history of diseases have been published by Chinese scholars, such as Lin Fushi's My Humble Opinion on Study on History of Diseases, Zhang Jiafeng's Ran Yi and Infection: Try to Discuss the Opinion on Diseases in Medical Works During Han-Tang Period by Taking *Treatise on the Causes and Symptoms of Diseases* for an Example, Jiang Zhushang's Disease and Medicine: See the Relationship between Doctor and Patient among Bachelors in Late-Ming Dynasty from *Qi Zhongmin's Diary*, Fan Jiawei's Malaria and Evil Causing Malaria in Han-Tang Period, and Li Qinpu's Medicine and Buddhism: Formation of Five Congenital Defects of Female Thoughts of TCM.

2. Research on history of specific medical disciplines

The research work in history of specific medical disciplines and some specific academic topics is still an important part in the field of medical history. During these five years, 35 articles have been published in *The Chinese Journal of Medical History*. History of specific medical disciplines of TCM includes history of Chinese materia medica, history of prescription forms, and history of gynecology etc. Such as Wang Jiakui's A Study on the Producing Locations of Medicines Included in *Shennong's Classic of Materia Medica* (2000; 1:), Zhu Jianping's The Germination and Preliminary Formation of Science of TCM Formula in the Pre-Qin Dynasty

(2001; 2:), and Ma Yiping's An Investigation on Gynecology of 29 Generations of Zheng's Medical Family in Kunshan (2000; 2:). There are 24 articles on clinical specific disciplines of Western medicine, dealing with thoracoscopic surgery, laparoscopic surgery, mediastinoscopy, endoscopy, surgical treatment for emphysema, adrenal gland surgery, cruciate ligament surgery, plastic surgery, tracheotomy, transplantation of hematopoietic stem cell, grafting of coronary artery bypass, electro-convulsive therapy in mental diseases, blood transfusion, glasses, virus, antibiotic, diagnosis and treatment of glaucoma, Helicobacter pylori and evidence-based medicine etc. Such as Wang Jun's A Developmental History of Thoracoscopic Surgery (1999; 1:), Lu Ping's A Century of Developmental History of Laparoscopic Surgery (2001; 4:), Li Zhiping's A Historical Review of the Study of Electrical Activity of Heart and Origination of Electrocardiography (1999; 4:), Zhang Zhenfa's A Brief History of Discovering Virus (2000; 2:), Kong Fanhu's Probing the Origin of Plastic Surgery and Its Early Development in China (2000; 3:), Zhang Mingming's A Brief History of Evidence-Based Medicine (2002; 4:)etc. The history of surgical monographic study makes up about 50 percent of the total. Comparing TCM with Western medicine, study on history of Western specific medical disciplines makes up five-sixths. A characteristic of this work is that many of the authors are clinical physicians with specific specialities.

The outstanding monograph is *The Historical Development of Acupuncture* (2001; Beijing) written by Huang Longxiang. It is a rare specimen of good works on history of acupuncture in recent years. The book consists of Introductory Remarks (a comprehensive summary of development of acupuncture), Meridians and Collaterals, Acupoint, Acupuncture and Moxibustion Technique and Treatment (sections of discussing the important related academic issues). The author has expounded the historical development of acupuncture comprehensively, done textual research on origin and development of acupuncture ideology fully and accurately and advanced new opinions, such as the close relationship between Meridians and blood vessel, the significance of Meridian Doctrine lying in not the circulating course of the Twelve Meridians but pointing out the specified relationship between specified positions, acupoints coming out before Meridians and the origin of Meridians interrelating with pulse-feeling etc.

3. Research on modern medical history

Research on modern medical history has been strengthened and valued. In these five years, 35 articles have been published in *The Chinese Journal of Medical History* successively, dealing with TCM development, medical education, medical system, introduction of Western medicine, missionary hospital, confluence of Chinese and Western medicine, and resistance of TCM etc, such as Liu Huizhen's Progress of Pediatrical Physio-Pathological Theory in Modern TCM (2000; 4:), Lu Ping's Modern Woman Medicine Education in China after the Introduction of Western Medicine (1999; 1:), Cao Lijuan's Introduction of Health Administrations at the End of the Qing Dynasty (2001; 2:), Deng Shaogen's The Importation of the First X-Ray Diagnostic Machine in China (2002; 2:), Lu Xiang's A Brief History of the Several Missionary Hospitals in the Modern Anhui Province (2000; 4:), Liu Xing's A Brief Account on the Characteristics of Confluence of Chinese and Western Medicine in Medical Affairs of Modern Shanxi (2002; 3:), and Li Jingwei's Introduction to Historical Facts of Qin Qin's Struggle for Right of TCM Development (1999; 1:)etc. Amongst these, medical education accounts for more papers than any other area, there

being 7 papers dealing with medical education, school health education and hygienic educational institution in He'nan, Fujian and Taiwan provinces, etc. *China Historical Materials of Science and Technology* has published 4 articles on modern medical history, such as Wang Yangzong's A Demonstration of Human Dissection in the Early Republic China (2001; 2:), Zhang Daqing's P. B. Cousland: A Promoter for the Standardization of Medical Nomenclature (2001; 4:) and Dai Wusan's A Primary X-ray Apparatus Was Admitted into Soochow Hospital in 1897 (2002; 3:) etc.

Modern History of TCM chiefly edited by Deng Tietao is a monograph (1999; Guangzhou). It is a rare specimen of good works on modern TCM history at present. The book discusses on historical background, academic innovation of TCM, TCM education, the dialogue with Western medicine, resistance of TCM, mass organizations and journals of TCM, figures of TCM, and development of TCM academy etc.

Research on Great New Trails in Modern TCM set by China Administrative Bureau of TCM in 2000 is the first task of medical history subsidized by the Nation since carrying out public bidding system, and the code name of medical history subject being left out, showing that the Nation has begun to pay attention to the research on medical history.

4. Research on medical biographies and works

Research on medical biographies and works is a basic work in the field of medical history. In these five years, 64 articles have been published in *The Chinese Journal of Medical History*, which are superior in numbers in all kinds of articles. These articles have discussed on Chinese and Western medical experts in ancient and modern times, including 23 Chinese experts such as Wu Youke, Zhang Binglin, Tan Yunxian, Qiu Xi, Du Congming, Wang Fengchun, Wang Bing, Wang Ji, Song Daren, Guan Tao, Liu Chun, Wu Kun, Quan Shaoqing, Cheng Zhifan, Wu Jutong, Liang Longzhang, Shi Kan, Jin Baoshan, Hu Chuangkui, Shang Deyan and 3 Western experts, Norman Bethune, Soranus of Ephesus and Claude Bernard. The articles are Zheng Jinsheng's Tan Yunxian, a Woman Physician of Ming Dynasty, and *Her Nu Yi Za Yan (Random Talks of a Woman Physician)* (1999; 3:), He Zhaoxiong's Dr. Tu Tsung-ming, a Famous Physician in Taiwan (1999; 3:), Zhu Jianping's The Life and Early Achievements of Quan Shaoqing, a Modern Hygienist (2000; 4:), and Ren Ying's Claude Bernard, Founder of Experimental Physiology (2001; 3:) etc. Articles on medical works deal with the ancient unearthed literatures lost yet spread abroad and medical classics, including *Qiong Yao Shen Shu (Qiong Yao's Magical Book)*, *Wen Bing Tiao Bian (Systemic Discourse on Warm Disease)*, *Ben Cao Tu Jing (Illustrated Canon of Herbology)*, *Shu Yi Hui Bian (Compilation of Plague)*, *Zhu Jie Shang Han Lun (Treatise on Cold pathogenic with Notes)*, *Huang Di Nei Jing Tai Su (Comprehensive Notes to the Yellow Emperor's Internal Classic)*, *Jing Yue Quan Shu (Jing Yue's Complete Book)*, *Sheng Nong Ben Cao Jing (Shennong's Herbal Classic)*, *Shi Ji Yao Yu (Brief Talks on Nursing)*, *Nu Yi Za Yan (Random Talks of A Woman Physician)*, *Shang Han Za Bing Lun (Treatise on Cold Pathogenic and Miscellaneous Diseases)*, *Yi Xue Cong Zhong Lu (Records of Popular Medicine)*, *Jin Gui Yu Han Yao Lue Fang Lun Shu Yi (Annotations on Synopsis of Jade Book of Golden Chamber)*, *Shang Han Lun (Treatise on Cold Pathogenic)*, *Yi Fang Ji Jie (Medical Recipes)*, *Xu Yi Jian Fang Mai Lun (Second Volume of Essay on Simple Recipes and Pulsology)*, *Wang Shi Yi Jian Fang (Wang's Simple Recipes)*, *Xin Xiu Ben Cao (Newly Revised Herbology)*, *Wu Shi Er Bing Fang (Prescriptions for 52 Diseases)*, *Qian Jin*

Yao Fang (Thousand Golden Essential Prescriptions), *Shi Zaizhi Fang (Shi Zaizhi's Prescriptions)*, *Su Wen Shi Yi (Interpretation of Plain Questions)*, *Bei Ji Dan Yan Yao Fang Juan (Volumes of Simple and Proved Recipe for Emergency)*, *Ling Shu (Spirit Pivot)*, *Nan Jing Ben Yi (Gist of the Classic of Questioning)*, *Lei Jing (Classified Canon)*, *Mai Jing (Pulse Classic)*, *Zhen Jiu Jing Yan Fang (Experiential Recipe on Acupuncture and Moxibustion)*, *Ao Shi Shang Han Jin Jing Lu (Ao's Records of Golden Mirror on Cold Pathogenic Disease)*, *Ben Cao Bu (Supplemented Materia Medica)*, *Hong Shi Ji Yan Fang (Hong's Collection of Effective Recipes)*, *Shang Han Yao Zhi Yao Fang (Recipes with Gist on Cold Pathogenic Disease)* and *Lei Gong Pao Zhi Lun (Lei's Technique for Processing Herbs)* etc. The articles are Ma Jixing's *Unearthed Ancient Chinese Medical Literatures Currently Preserved in Russia* (1999; 1:), Fu Weikang's *Shi Ji Yao Yu*, the Earliest Extant Monograph on TCM Nursery (1999; 3:), Liu Shijue's *Further Investigation on Second Volume of Essay on Simply Recipe and Pulsology (SESR)* and Wang's *Simple Recipes (WSR)* (2000; 4:), Zheng Jinsheng's *A Study on Cai Xishan's Mai Jing (Pulse Classic)* (2002; 2:), and Qian Chaochen's *Circulation of Song Editions of Hong Shi Ji Yan Fang (Hong's Collection of Effective Recipes)* and *Shang Han Yao Zhi Yao Fang (Recipes with Gist on Gold Pathogenic Disease)* (2002; 4:) etc.

Related monographs have emerged in large numbers. *Tang Feifan, a Medical Scientist* (1999; Beijing) written by Liu Junxiang (who has followed Tang Feifan for many years) narrates Tang's life story vividly and objectively. *Study on Brilliant Medical Experts in Contemporary Shaanxi* (1999; Xi'an) chiefly edited by Zhao Shilin compiles life stories and achievements of 112 Chinese and Western medical experts in Shanxi. *Comprehensive Study on Bian Que* (2002; Beijing) chiefly edited by Liu Renyuan collects textual papers dealing with Bian's historical materials, medical works, life story, academic symposium, birthplace, name, temple, grave, legend and culture etc. *Anthology of Study on Wang Qingren* (2002; Beijing) chiefly edited by Qian Chaochen is a monograph studying systematically on Wang Qingren and his theory, collecting achievements in academic study on Wang Qingren and its applications throughout history.

There are other monographs such as *Explanation of Long Men Recipe* (1999; Zhengzhou) chiefly edited by Zhang Ruixian, *Medical Theory of Dai Yuanli* (1999; Shanghai) edited by Pu Jiang Hospital of TCM, *Study and Restoration of Quan Yuanqi's Edition of Plain Questions* (2001; Shanghai) written by Duan Yishan, *Total Editions of Shang Han Lun (Treatise on Cold Pathogenic)* (2001; Beijing) written by Li Shunbao collecting 8 editions including Dun Huang edition, Kang Zhi edition, Kang Ping edition, Gao Jichong's edition, Tang edition, Song edition, *Canon of Jade Book of Golden Chamber* and *Treatise on Cold Pathogenic with Notes, Revising and Explaining Confucian Duties to Their Parents* (2001; Hong Kong) written by Yang Jianyu, *Brief Explanation of Liu Yiming's Medical Books* (2001; Lanzhou) chiefly edited by Li Yingchun, and *Restoration and Explanation of Supplement to Materia Medica* (2002; Hefei) (basically restoring to the state of Tang Dynasty) written by Shang Zhijun.

5. Research on history of medical culture

History of medical culture is regarded as external history of medical history. Several monographs and a few pieces of articles have been published in the five years before last. During

these five years, the amount of articles has markedly increased. According to statistics by *The Chinese Journal of Medical History*, there are 16 articles discussing basically the influence of Confucianism, Taoism, Buddhism and I-discipline on Chinese medicine, such as Zhu Jianping's Buddhist Influences on Sun Simiao's Precious Prescriptions for Emergency (Qian Jin Fang) (1999; 4:), Wang Zhenrui's The Conscious of Mutual Infiltration of Nature Things (Cmnn) and Alchemy and Swallowing Stone (2000; 4:), and Meng Qingyun's Influence of Neo-Confucianism in the Song and Ming Dynasties on the Theory of TCM (2002; 3:) etc. Meanwhile, influence of religion on medicine of Chinese minorities has been discussed, such as Influence of Religious Belief on Mongolian Medicine (1999; 2:) written by C.Caijilahu. *Discussing Confucianism, Taoism and Buddhism in Medicine* (1999; Beijing) chiefly edited by Xue Gongchen collects 24 articles about Study on the Confucian, Taoist and Buddhist Thought in TCM, as a part of The Ninth Five Years Projects in Philosophic and Social Science. *Pestilence and Society of Jiang Nan (south of the lower reaches of the Chang Jiang River) in the Qing Dynasty* (2003; Beijing) written by Yu Xinzhong is a new book in the history of medicine and society, and discusses mutual relationship between pestilence and society of Jiang Nan in the Qing Dynasty from social background, epidemic situation, knowledge and cause of pestilence etc. In August 2001, The Fifth National Symposium on TCM Culture was held in Jinggang Mountain by Culture Union of Chinese Association of TCM. The meeting discussed on TCM culture and its relationship with clinical medicine, and reached agreement on intension of TCM culture study, definition and content of TCM Culture, TCM cultural study task and its relationship with clinical medicine etc. Study on Social History of Diseases in Modern China is a task in this field from 2000 to 2003, a part of Bringing New Ideas To Knowledge Project carried out by Chinese Academy of Sciences.

In this field, scholars in Taiwan have achieved great success; for there is a research team composed mainly of historians, mainly centered at Taiwan's Academia Sinica. A Discussion Group for Disease, Medicine and Culture was set up in Institute of History and Philology in 1992. Research Office for History of Life and Medicine was set up in July 1997. Academic symposium was held once a month, such as Symposium on Medicine in China in the 19th Century held in May 1998, Symposium on Health Preservation, Medicine and Religion held in January 1999, Symposium on History of Health and Beauty held in June 1999, Symposium on Image of Wizard, and Symposium on Divination and Medicine held in August 2003. *New History* started publication in 1990, as a forum for publishing the academic achievements of the scholars. And 17 papers on medical history have been published in the journal from 1990 to 1998. During these five years, 10 papers have been published, such as The Human-Flesh as a Medicine and the Idea of "Vitalism": The Medical Idea of the Behavior of "Cutting Flesh to Heal Parent" from Sui-Tang Dynasty to Modern China (1999; 4:) written by Chung-lin Ch'iu, Forbidden but Efficacious: Woman's Body in the Medicine of Early Imperial China (2002; 4:) written by Jen-der Lee, and Accountable Doctor and Loyal Patient: Transformation of Doctor-Patient Relationship in the Republican Period (2003; 1:) written by Sean Hsiang-lin Lei. The 4th issue of *New History* in 1999 is The History of the Body Issue, and Jian-min Li, Yu-chen Li, Chung-lin Ch'iu and Jen-der Lee have published 5 articles on external history.

6. Research on history of medicine of foreign countries, history of medical exchanges and comparative medical history

During these five years, 7 papers on history of medicine of Ancient India, Ancient Roma, America, South Korea and Europe have been published in *The Chinese Journal of Medical History*, such as Jivaka's Recipes in Indian Ancient Medical Texts (2001; 4:) written by Chen Ming, Characteristics of Development of Modern Western Medical Ethics (1999; 1:) written by Zhang Daqing and Clinical Medicine of Western Medicine in the 18th Century (2001; 3:) written by Zhen Cheng etc. *Studies in the History of Natural Sciences* has published Chen Ming's *The Bower Manuscript and Siddhasara: Two Sanskrit Medical Classics in the Ancient Western Regions* (2001; 4:). *China Historical Materials of Science and Technology* has published Chen Ming's *Jivaka-pustaka: A Bilingual Sanskrit and Khotanese Medical Classic from Dunhuang Caves* (2001; 1:) and Jin Shiyong's *Investigation of Overseas Bronze Figures Marked with Acupuncture Points* (2000; 3:). *China Historical Materials of Science and Technology* has published a series of articles on ancient Indian medicine written by Liao Yuqun, such as *Susruta-samhita in Ayurveda: an Introduction about a Traditional Indian Classic* (2000; 4:), *The Channels and Points in Ayurveda* (2001; 4:), and *The Theory of Rasa in Ayurveda* (2002; 3:) etc. *Ayurveda, Traditional Indian Medicine* (2002; Shengyang) written by Liao Yuqun researches and introduces emphatically basic theory and treatment of Ayurveda and contains many original literatures. *Study on Essentials of Medical Theory, an Indian Medical Text in Sanskrit* (2002; Beijing) written by Chen Ming is the first Chinese translation of *Essentials of Medicinal Theory*. The author has studied on medical and cultural exchanges between China and India systematically according to first hand materials of India, the Ancient Middle Asia and China etc.

Several translations have been published. The outstanding one is Chinese translation of *A History of Medicine* (written by Arturo Castiglioni, an Italian famous medical historian) chiefly translated by Cheng Zhifan (2003; Guilin), which has recorded the development of medical mentality, medical techniques, medical researches from prehistoric times to the middle of 20th Century and merged history of medical ideology, history of medical condition and history of medical figures into an organic whole. Moreover, *From Humoralism to Medical Science: Development of American Medicine* (1999; Qingdao) and *Cambridge History of Medicine* (2000; Changchun) chiefly translated by Zhang Daqing, and second edition (2002; Tianjin) of Chinese translation of *A history of the Life Sciences* (written by Lois N. Magner) are of great value for study and research on history of foreign countries.

During these five years, *The Chinese Journal of Medical History* has published 4 papers on history of medical exchanges, dealing with medical exchanges between China and Korea, spread of Chinese variolation art to Western world and retrieval of ancient medical literature lost yet spread abroad etc, such as *Yi Lin Cuo Yao (Essentials of Medical Works)* and its Historical Materials of Medical Exchanges between China and Korea (2001; 1:) written by Liang Yongxuan, *Spread of Chinese Variolation Art to the Western World and its Influence* (2000; 3:) written by Xie Shusheng, and *Investigation on Circulation of Ao Shi Shang Han Jin Jing Lu (Ao's Golden Mirror of Cold Pathogenic Diseases)* in Japan (2003; 1:) written by Liang Rong etc. The vital great project in this field from 2000 to 2005 is *Research on History of Exchanges between China and America* subsidized by American Foundation for Chinese Medicine. Only 3 papers on comparative medical history have been published. In view of this field is a weak point in research on medical history, Cheng Zhifan states that comparative medical history merits attention in the

21st century (2001; 2:).

7. Research work in other fields Except the main fields mentioned above, research on ancient medical history, contemporary medical history, local medical history, and history of medicine of Chinese minorities have made progress to varying degrees.

Research on ancient medical history is always a powerful field. During these five years, 39 articles on ancient medical history have been published in *The Chinese Journal of Medical History*, dealing with hygiene, medical ideology, archaeology, textual criticism etc, such as Study on the Bathing Habit in Qin-Han Period (1999; 4:) written by Peng Wei, Analytical Study on Characteristics of Medical Thinking in the Sui and Tang Dynasties (2001; 1:) written by Zhang Zhibin, Textual Study on Two Ancient Bronze Figures Spread Abroad (2002; 1:) written by Jin Shiyong and Textual Research and Explanation of “Qi-Huang” (2002; 4:) written by Zhu Jianping etc. Li Jianming’s Fire and the Origins of Moxibustion (2002; 4:) has been published in *Studies in the History of Natural Sciences*.

The amount of articles on contemporary history is small. During these five years, only 8 related articles have been published in *The Chinese Journal of Medical History*. And there are 3 articles on history of integrated Chinese and Western medicine, showing that scholars begin to pay attention to this work. In addition, *China Historical Materials of Science and Technology* has published Lu Ling’s Policy and Organizational Construction for Combining Traditional Chinese and Western Medicine Since the Founding of People’s Republic of China (1999; 3:). Wang Zhenrui has published *Discussion on History of Integrated Chinese and Western Medicine in China* (2002; Shijiazhuang), a book with original ideas, on the basis of his doctoral thesis. The author has divided the whole history of integrated Chinese and Western medicine into two periods and analyzed the relationship and difference between Confluence of Chinese and Western Medicine, Scientific TCM, Integrated Chinese and Western Medicine, and Modernization of TCM, emphasizing the historical necessity, superiority and possibility of integration of TCM and Western medicine, pointing out existing problems, and discussing the relationship between TCM and Integrated Chinese and Western Medicine.

There are several monographs on history of local medicine. *Medical History in Zhejiang* (1999; Beijing) written by Zhu Deming records the development of medical history in Zhejiang, such as medical administration, pharmacy, medical and pharmacological experts, public hygiene, epidemic diseases spreading, medical education, learned society, religion and medicine, medical custom etc. *TCM in Ling Nan (south of the Five Ridges)* chiefly edited by Shen Yingsen has summarized the development of TCM in Ling Nan, showing its marked local characteristics. *Study on Yong Jia Medical Schools* written by Liu Shijue has discussed on the formation and development of the schools, physicians (Cheng Wuze, Wang Shuo, Sun Zhining, Shi Fa, Lu Zuchang and Wang Wei) and their works. And Beijing Administrative Bureau of TCM set a task called Study on Developmental History of TCM in Beijing in 2002.

There are 8 articles on medical history of Tibetan, Mongolian, Miao and She ethnic groups have been published in *The Chinese Journal of Medical History*. Such as The Tibetan Physician

Garma Ngesdon Tanjin Phrinlas Rabgyas and His Medical Works (2000; 3:) written by Bunkol, Study on Shamanistic Healing Art of Mongolian Nationality (1999; 1:) written by B. Agula and Sarentuya, Exploration on Features of Early Medical Activities of Miao Nationality (2000; 2:) written by Tan Xuelin and Investigation on Folk Medicine and Health Care of She Ethnic Group in Zhejiang Province (2002; 4:) written by Zhu Jianping etc. *Study on Si Bu Yi Dian, A Tibetan Medical Classic* (1999; Zhengzhou) is a monograph written by Cai Jingfeng etc. The authors have done textual research work with comparative medical history and literature methods and proved that *Si Bu Yi Dian* was written by gYuthog Yontan mGonpo in the 8th century taking Tibetan medical experiences as the main contents and drawing the essence of TCM and Ayurveda, Traditional Indian Medicine. Cai Jingfeng wrote *A General History of Tibetan Medicine*, which has been published in 2002. It is the first monograph of general Tibetan medical history in Chinese up to now. The author has divided the Tibetan medical history into 5 periods according to the developmental features of Tibetan medicine and historical development of Tibetan society. *Traditional Medicine of Chinese Minorities* (2000; Huhhot) written by Qi Ling introduces brief medical history of 35 minorities. *Tibetan and Mongolian Medicine under the Bodhi Tree* (2001; Beijing) written by Su Nuo discusses on history of Tibetan and Mongolian medicine, Tibetan medicine along with the Buddhism, and spread and influence of Tibetan medicine in Mongolia.

During these five years, about 300 articles on medical history have been published in *The Chinese Journal of Medical History*. About 200 related articles have been published in other Chinese journals, such as *Studies in the History of Natural Sciences*, *China Historical Materials of Science and Technology*, *New History*, *Journal of TCM Literature*, *Journal of Nanjing University of TCM (social sciences issue)*, *Medicine and Philosophy* etc. According to incomplete statistics, about 40 monographs on medical history have been published during these five years, including several important ones such as Cheng Haifeng's *Scientific and Technological History of Chinese Medicine and Hygiene* (1999; Beijing), Li Jianming's *Life and Death, Origin and Development of Pulse Study in Zhou-Qin-Han Period* (2000; Taipei), Zhao Chunyi's *Textual Research on Names of Herbs* (2000; Beijing) and Zhu Jianping's *Study on History of Chinese Medicine* (2003; Beijing). People's Medical Publishing House published *A General History of Chinese Medicine* in 2000. It is the first monumental work of general medical history in China up to now and has won the only first-class prize of achievements in scientific research awarded by China Academy of TCM in 2002. This work contains 4,000,000 words and 1000 pictures and is divided into 4 volumes (Ancient Times, Modern Times, Contemporary Times, Historical Relics and Pictures). It has described the whole history of TCM, Western medicine, integrated Chinese and Western medicine, medicine of Chinese minorities (such as Tibetan, Mongolian, Uygurian, Zhuang, Korean, Dai and Yi medicine etc.), military medicine, forensic medicine, and medicine in Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macao etc.

The national and local academic meetings of medical history are held almost annually. Medical History Branch of Chinese Medical Association held International Conference on Sun Simiao in Xi'an in 1999, The 2nd International Conference on Sun Simiao and Taoist Medicine and The 3rd International Conference on Chinese Medical History in Xi'an in 2001, and Forum of Development of Chinese and Western Medicine in Mainland and Taiwan in 21st Century and 19th Academic Symposium on Chinese Medical History in Huhhot in 2002. The branches of Chinese

Medical Association, China Association of TCM, China Association of Scientific and Technical History, and Chinese Association of Pharmacy in all parts of the country have also held academic meetings, such as Yunnan, Jiangsu and Henan province etc. In addition, The National Academic Symposium on Zhang Zihé has been held twice. Many articles on medical history have been published at these meetings. Meanwhile, some articles of high quality have been published at the other meetings home and abroad, such as The 100th Conference of Japanese Association of Medical History held in Tokyo in 1999, The International Conference of Tibetan Medicine held in Lhasa in 2000, The International Conference of Mongolian Medicine held in Huhhot in 2001, The 19th International Conference of Chinese Scientific History held in Hong Kong in 2001, The 5th International Conference of Traditional Asian Medicine held in Halle 2002 etc.

During these five years, we have advocated that history and literature of TCM research should integrate with the basic theory research, providing service for scientific research, medical work and education. In particular, we have made encouraging progress in expanding study sphere, developing research work on standardization of TCM terminology, formulae and syndrome, and strengthening research on history of diseases, history of specific medical disciplines, and some specific academic topics. For the coming years, the stress points should be still laid on the research on history of diseases, history of specific medical disciplines, and some specific academic topics. In addition, the weak points in the research fields of theoretical problems in studies of medical history, medical history of Chinese minorities, medical history of communication between China and foreign countries, comparative study on medical history, and the study on history of medical culture should also be strengthened and valued continually.

(materials in this article collected up to August 2003)