

A survey of Taiwanese people's attitude and experience on Traditional Chinese medicines

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Introduction: In Taiwan, in addition to Western medicines, people also have the habit of using traditional Chinese medicines, while in Japan, people use Kampo medicines (Japanese traditional medicines modified from ancient Chinese medicines). In 2020, we conducted a survey that investigated the general public's attitude and experience of Kampo medicines in Japan. **Objective:** We hope to understand the general public's views of traditional Chinese medicines in Taiwan and the different views between traditional Chinese medicines and Kampo medicines for the general public. **Method:** We conducted an online survey for Taiwanese people to reflect the general public's views on traditional Chinese medicines in 2022. Medical-related personnel was excluded. The questionnaires of the survey in Taiwan were the same as those in Japan basically, but several options for choice were changed according to the situation in Taiwan. Questions included experience, impressions, access, expectations, etc. **Result and Discussion:** There were 518 participants. More than 95% of them had taken traditional Chinese medicines. However, the proportion of Japanese people who had taken Kampo medicines was about 70%. Therefore, traditional Chinese medicines were very common in Taiwan than in Japan. Besides, "Work gently" was the most common positive impression, and "Slow to take effect" was the most common negative impression. It was the same as the results in Japan. Among the Kampo medicines that were taken by the Japanese, "Ge Gen Tang (葛根湯)" was the most. However, "Si Wu Tang (四物湯)" was the most for Traditional Chinese medicines in Taiwan. Therefore, there was an obviously different usage habit. **Conclusion:** Although Taiwanese people use traditional Chinese medicines more commonly than Japanese people, the cognition of traditional Chinese medicines in Taiwanese is still somewhat limited, so it is necessary to promote more accurate information.

Reference

- [1] Chuang, C-Y, Chung, H-Y, Uehara, C, Taira, M, Takeda, O, Nagashima, Y, et al. A survey of Japanese people's attitude to and experience of Kampo medicines. *Traditional & Kampo Medicine*. 2022.