



BSI Standards Publication

Health informatics — Categorial structures for representation of acupuncture

Part 3: Moxibustion

National foreword

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

**Part 3:
Moxibustion**

*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.

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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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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 selected 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;