

Editor-in-Chief

China-Bound for “Center of Excellence”

IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO publish Chinese acupuncture articles because of problematic English grammar and scientific style. These factors tend to distort the article in an unfavorable manner and become some of the major reasons for rejection. Thus, Chinese articles may never appear in the English literature. Now there is a rainbow . . . Our *Medical Acupuncture* journal has a verbal cooperative agreement with the School of Acupuncture and Moxibustion, Beijing University of Chinese Medicine, to begin publishing top-notch acupuncture articles that have been carefully reviewed and rewritten to enhance their acceptability. It will not be easy, but all of us are determined and will persist to make it succeed.

Through this joint cooperation, manuscripts will be highly filtered by a volunteer group of experts at Beijing University before sending to *Medical Acupuncture*. Once e-mailed to us, we will review and clean-up some of those nasty English “errors,” scan and repair some of the scientific style, and offer recommendations to our Chinese colleagues for revision. When the article is eventually resubmitted to *Medical Acupuncture*, it will no longer be the usual “beta version” as is so often the case, but, instead, will resemble a “release candidate” for submission to our normal peer review process and hopefully, chances for acceptance will be more favorable. Obviously, it may take several revisions back and forth. But we will be persistent. The bottom-line for our readers may eventually be 2 high-quality, informative Chinese articles per issue, or 8 per year.

Acupuncture was “made in China”! Our esteemed colleagues have much to contribute. It has been *their product* for thousands of years, but we have had difficulties importing their literature. For the most part, poor communication has held back this vast storehouse of knowledge. But this poor communication can now be a thing of the past between

East and West. We live in a marvelous high-tech time. So, when your Editor-in-Chief received an invitation from Professor (Dr) Jiang Zhu, President of the School of Acupuncture and Moxibustion, Beijing University of Chinese Medicine, to discuss my proposal for a “*Center of Excellence*” for Chinese articles, I did not waste any time getting there. It was exhilarating . . . Over the North Pole, landing in Beijing in 12^{1/2} hours, and, wow, they do speak English! KFC, here I come for supper—but Beijing Duck was even better!

The invitation to lecture at Beijing University on “Battlefield Acupuncture” and “Acupuncture for Dry Mouth and Eyes,” and also, at the 20th Anniversary of World Federation of Acupuncture and Moxibustion meeting featuring my talk, “How to Write an Acupuncture Paper for *Medical Acupuncture*,” were the highlights of my trip. And I thoroughly enjoyed their scientific presentations. I would like to thank Professor (Dr) Zhu and Dr Liangxiao Ma, Director of the International Training Office School of Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine, Beijing University of Chinese Medicine, for their invitation, welcome, and hospitality.

Our Chinese colleagues are brilliant and *want* to publish in our journal! It can be a hurdle for them. It could be a win-win situation for all of us! We *need* to resonate with this world. Chinese acupuncture literature obviously has much to offer. I am sure there will be other intangible benefits to this exchange as well. *I will need assistance/volunteers from our readership to ensure the success of this project and to boost its effectiveness.* If all goes well, our journal may serve as the vehicle to go “China Bound”!

Good news! The journal has been accepted for indexing in EMBASE and EMCare.

Richard C. Niemtzow, MD, PhD, MPH
Editor-in-Chief

The opinions and assertions contained herein are the private views of the author and are not to be construed as official or as reflecting the views of the United States Air Force medical departments or the Air Force at large. The author indicates that he does not have any conflicts of interest. Sources of funding: none reported.

This article has been cited by:

1. Peter T. Dorsher . 2009. Medical Acupuncture in the 21st Century: Future ChallengesMedical Acupuncture in the 21st Century: Future Challenges. *Medical Acupuncture* **21**:1, 3-4. [[Citation](#)] [[PDF](#)] [[PDF Plus](#)]