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YUNG-CHI CHENG

WHY AND HOW TO STUDY HERBAL MEDICINE (TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE) FOR THE TREATMENT OF HUMAN DISEASES

23 May 2011 - 11:00

SARDEGNA RICERCHE
Loc. Piscinamanna – Edificio 2 – Pula

Opening session: Prof. Gaetano Di Chiara, UniCa

Moderator: Prof. Enzo Tramontano, UniCa

Yung-Chi Cheng

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The conventional single chemical medicine, based on the reductionist drug discovery approach for the treatment of cancer and complicated human diseases is useful, but not sufficient. Polychemical medicine, having chemicals targeted on different sites as well as taking a holistic or system biology approach, could be complementary in providing future medicine for the treatment of those unmet clinical needs. Traditional herbal medicines including Chinese medicines, which are polychemical in nature and have multiple claims, could serve as the basis for developing future polychemical medicines as well

as single chemical medicines. In order for herbal medicines to be accepted globally there are several issues that need to be addressed: quality control of herbal medicines; clinical evidence to support those medical claims; safety issues; and interactions with other available drugs as well as how it works. The presentation will focus on what approaches can be taken to overcome those hurdles based on our experience of exploring an 1800 year old Chinese medicine formula, PHY906, as adjuvant therapy for cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy treatment.

Information and registration available at www.sardegna ricerche.it