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CONSIDERATIONS FOR MULTI-SITE RESEARCH STUDIES INVESTIGATING CHINESE MEDICAL TREATMENT EFFECTIVENESS- THE LATEST ISSUES AND A NEW PROJECT

Michael Popplewell

University of Technology, Australia

There has been a recent trend towards the publishing of guidelines and papers reporting on large studies in Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) that include multiple sites for data collection and thousands of subjects. By all accounts it is an exciting time in research in TCM and the results published in these large studies will have long term impacts on practitioners, researchers and teaching institutions alike. However, are these projects premature? Have all the considerations been adequately addressed? In particular, recent developments in diagnostic reliability may have an impact on the validity of these large studies. In this talk, the latest trends in big data research in TCM and the results are reported. The guidelines currently used will be also assessed and the potential effects that this research may have on our profession will be discussed. The details of the design of a large research project currently in development by the author will also be presented.

michael@true-results.com.au

