



2025 ISO/TC 249 NEWSLETTER

—VOL.17—

December 2025

Dear colleagues and friends,

2025 marks an important milestone in the development history of ISO/TC 249. Building on 16 years of dedicated hard work and invaluable experience gained in the international standardization of TCM since its establishment in 2009, and through the collective efforts of all members, we have explored a successful path for international standardization of traditional medicine. To date, we have published 125 international standards for TCM and achieved encouraging results in promoting social and economic development.

This year, in accordance with ISO/TMB Resolution 86/2024, and leveraging our established expertise in TCM international standardization, the title and scope of ISO/TC 249 have been revised and expanded. ISO/TC 249 Traditional Medicine will now undertake significant responsibility of leading the international standardization development of traditional medicine globally.

In 2026, ISO/TC 249 will embrace a more open, inclusive, and expansive development opportunity. Let us continue to strive and work together to make new contributions to the development of traditional medicine worldwide and to the health of all humankind.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

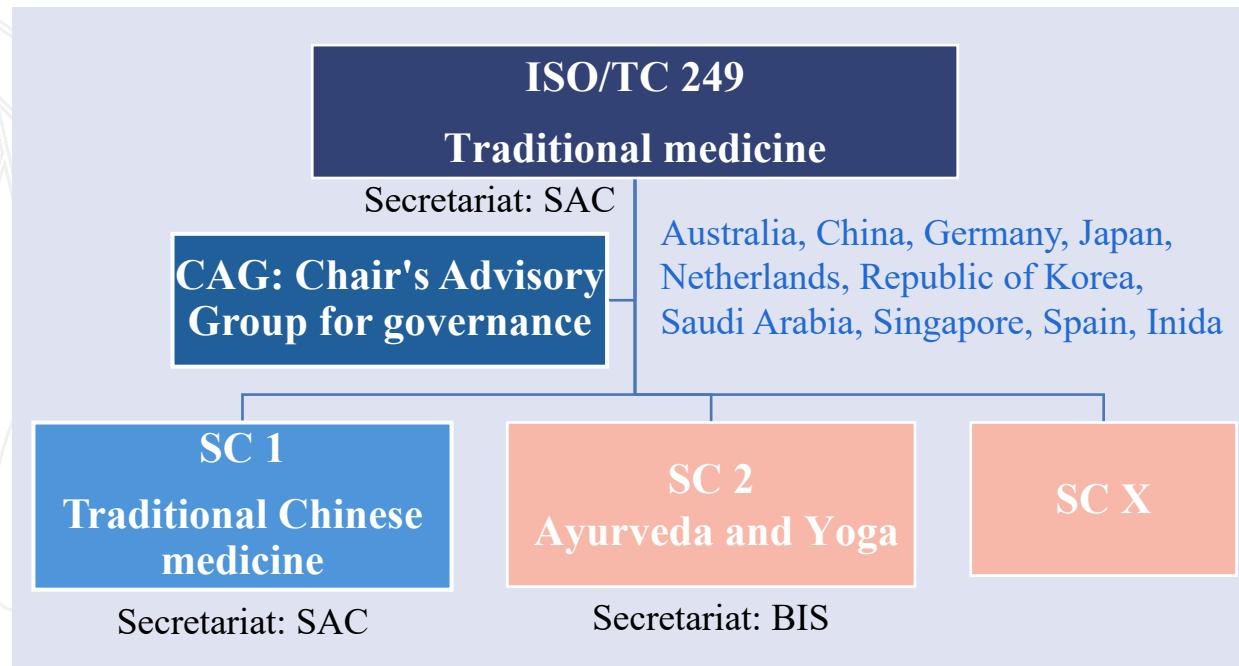
Best regards,
Shen Yuandong
ISO/TC 249 Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "SHEN.Y.D." followed by a stylized surname.

01

UPDATED INFORMATION OF ISO/TC 249

- New structure of ISO/TC 249 -



Prof. SHEN Yuandong
Chair of ISO/TC 249



Dr. SANG Zhen
Chair of ISO/TC 249/SC 1



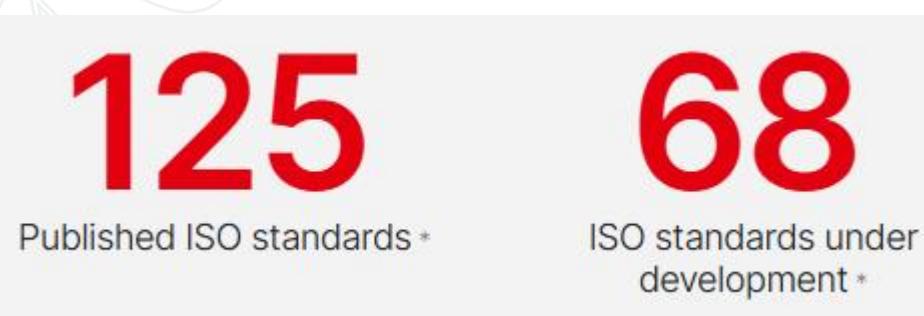
Mr. Jayant Deopujari
Chair of ISO/TC 249/SC 2

● Scope of ISO/TC 249

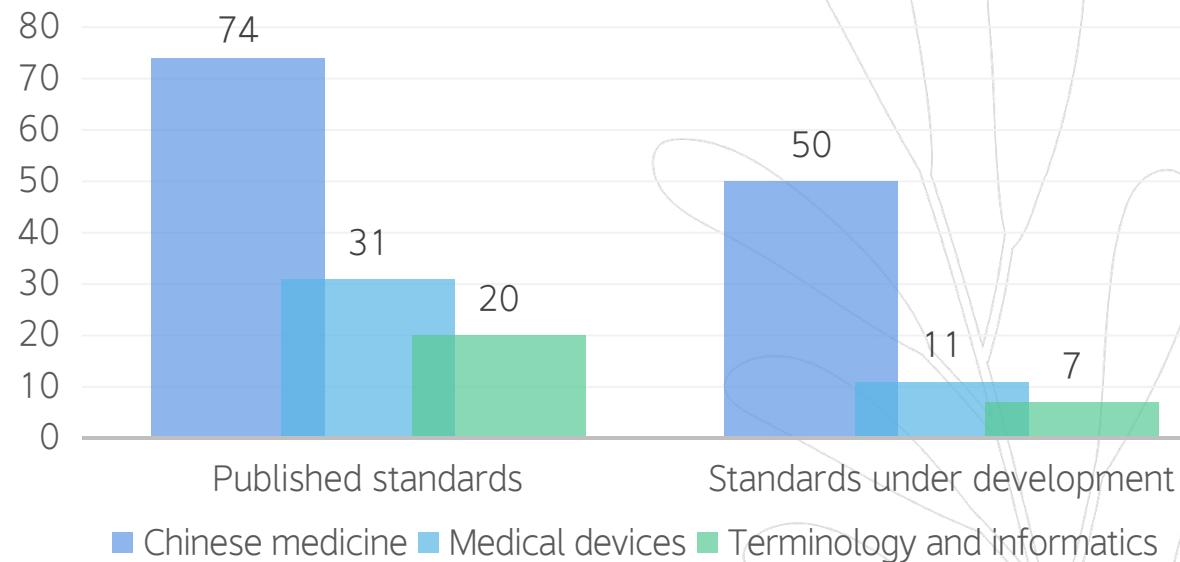
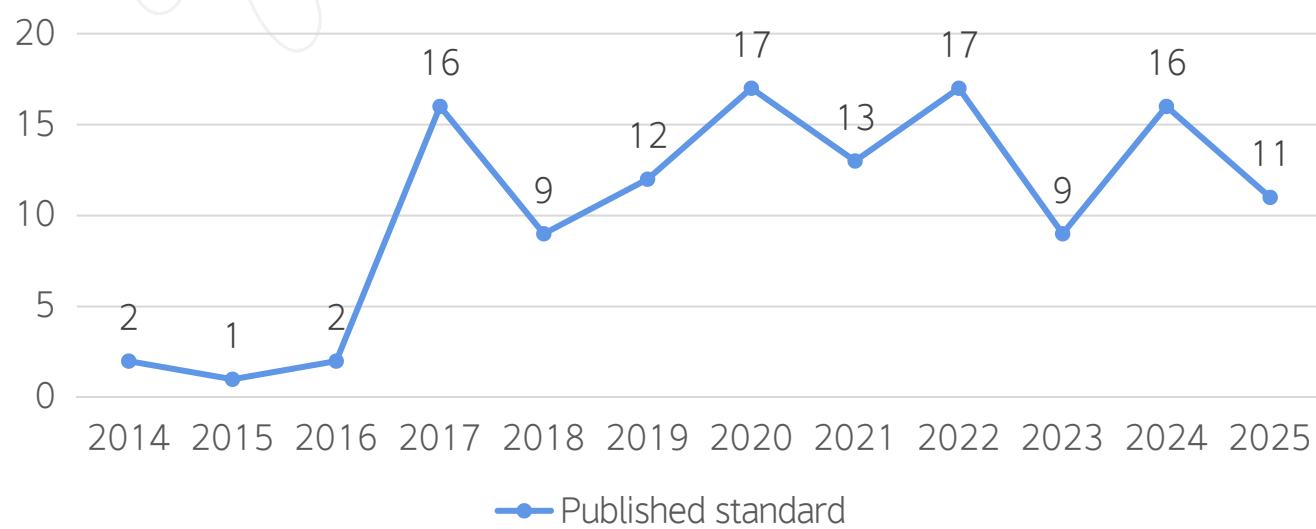


- Standardization of materials, products, services and processes in traditional medical systems, including modern developments of these systems, but not clinical practice.

- Standard development -



* number updated in December 2025



Systematic review for
51 published standards

100% approved

- Publication of 2025 -

Reference	Document title
1	ISO/TR 23975:2025 Traditional Chinese medicine — Priority list of single herbal medicines for developing standards
2	ISO 19851:2025 Traditional Chinese medicine — <i>Cinnamomum cassia</i> branch
3	ISO 5106:2025 Traditional Chinese medicine — <i>Polygala tenuifolia</i> and <i>Polygala sibirica</i> root
4	ISO 19842:2025 Traditional Chinese medicine — <i>Dioscorea opposita</i> rhizome
5	ISO 19015:2025 Traditional Chinese medicine — <i>Glycyrrhiza uralensis</i> and <i>Glycyrrhiza glabra</i> seeds and seedlings
6	ISO/TS 21310:2025 Traditional Chinese medicine — Microscopic examination of medicinal herbs
7	ISO/TS 25006:2025 Traditional Chinese medicine — Sporoderm-broken <i>Ganoderma lucidum</i> spore powder
8	ISO 19836:2025 Traditional Chinese medicine — <i>Platycodon grandiflorus</i> root
9	ISO 19047:2025 Traditional Chinese Medicine — <i>Polygonum multiflorum</i> root
10	ISO 24049:2025 Traditional Chinese medicine — <i>Aconitum carmichaelii</i> parent root tuber
11	ISO 22212:2025 Traditional Chinese medicine — <i>Gastrodia elata</i> tuber

02

PLENARY AND WG MEETINGS OF ISO/TC 249 IN 2025

- The 15th Plenary Meeting -



Over the five-day meeting, 9 WGs and the CAG convened for in-depth technical discussions on development plans, new proposals, and ongoing projects. At the closing plenary, India's representatives presented the preparation and work plan for TC 249/SC 2. The committee adopted 61 plenary resolutions addressing key topics and projects within the scope of work, organizational structure, and strategic planning.

From June 1st to 5th, the 15th Plenary Meeting of ISO/TC 249 and ISO/TC 249/SC 1, following organizational structure adjustments, was held in Amsterdam, Netherlands.

The meeting was hosted by NEN and was attended by over 150 representatives from China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain, Italy, Canada, Saudi Arabia, India, Mongolia, as well as the World Federation of Chinese Medicine Societies and ISO/TC 215.



- Summary of WG and CAG meetings in 2025 -

Committee	Date	City	Attended participant
ISO/TC 249/SC 1/WG 3	12 Dec	Beijing	31
ISO/TC 249/SC 1/WG 4	1-2 Dec	Seoul	45
ISO/TC 249/SC 1/WG 5	28 Nov	Guangzhou	34
ISO/TC 249/SC 1/WG 2	20 Nov	Nanning	32
ISO/TC 249/SC 1/WG 1	19 Nov	Nanning	67
ISO/TC 249/SC 1/WG 1	3-4 Jun	Amsterdam	84
ISO/TC 249/SC 1/WG 2	2 Jun	Amsterdam	48
ISO/TC 249/SC 1/WG 3	2 Jun	Amsterdam	38
ISO/TC 249/SC 1/WG 4	4 Jun	Amsterdam	55
ISO/TC 249/SC 1/WG 5	3 Jun	Amsterdam	51
ISO/TC 249/SC 1/JWG 1	4 Jun	Amsterdam	21
ISO/TC 249/SC 1/CAG 1 CAG 2	1 Jun	Amsterdam	22
ISO/TC 249/SC 1/CAG 1 CAG 2	26 Mar	Hybrid	22

- CAG meetings -



- ISO/TC 249/SC 1/WG1 meetings -



- ISO/TC 249/SC 1/WG2 meetings -



- ISO/TC 249/SC 1/WG3 & JWG1 meetings -



- ISO/TC 249/SC 1/WG4 meetings -



- ISO/TC 249/SC 1/WG5 meetings -



03

ISO/TC 249' S ACTIVITIES

- SCO Forum on Traditional Medicine and Traditional Medicine Industry Conference 2025

Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Forum on Traditional Medicine and Traditional Medicine Industry Conference 2025 was successfully held in Nanchang, China, on September 25. Focusing on the theme of deepening international industrial cooperation for shared development, the forum served as a key platform for knowledge exchange and collaborative planning among global experts and industry.



Prof. SHEN Yuandong, the Chair of ISO/TC 249 was invited to give a keynote speech in the opening session. He presented on the development and future prospects of international standardization for traditional medicine, sharing the committee's experience and achievements. Prof. Shen expressed a strong commitment to strengthening cooperation with SCO member states, aiming to jointly drive industrial progress, technological innovation, and talent development in the field.

The event effectively promoted practical dialogue and collaboration on traditional medicine across the SCO community.

- 2025 International Symposium on Traditional Medicine -

The 2025 International Symposium on Traditional Medicine (ISTM) was successfully held from September 9–10 in Seoul, Republic of Korea.

The Chair of ISO/TC 249 Prof. Shen Yuandong and the assistant secretary Ms. Shirley XU were invited to attend this symposium. Prof. SHEN delivered a keynote speech titled “The development and prospects of International Standardization on Traditional medicine” .

During the symposium, the ISO/TC 249 team engaged in multilateral exchanges with experts from various countries, exploring the integration of artificial intelligence with traditional medicine standards. These discussions have laid a solid foundation for developing more inclusive and practical international standards in the future.



- Global Forum on Music, AI and Health -



On October 23, 2025, experts and scholars from artificial intelligence, music, medicine, and standardization gathered in Shanghai to discuss the opportunities, challenges, and future directions of integrating AI with music and health.

The Chair of ISO/TC 249 Prof. Shen Yuandong was invited to attend this forum and delivered a keynote speech in the opening session. During the forum, *Shanghai Initiative on AI + Music and Health* was published.



- The 12th conference of Asian Association of Schools of Pharmacy (AASP) -

From August 2-4, 2025, ISO/TC 249 representatives Ms. Shirley Xu and Prof. Shi Yanhong attended the 12th AASP Conference in Saitama, Japan. At the Traditional Medicine Symposium, Ms. Xu presented a report on the development of ISO standards for traditional medicine.

She highlighted key achievements in areas such as the quality, safety, and coding of Chinese medicinal materials, and shared insights into effective consensus-building among different national standards.

The presentation prompted active discussions among Asia-Pacific experts and regulators. Participants exchanged views on advancing the ISO standardization of herbal medicine and addressing related challenges.

This engagement effectively promoted international dialogue and collaboration on traditional medicine standards within the regional professional community.



04

LIAISON' S ACTIVITIES



During the 15th plenary meeting of TC 249 in June in Amsterdam, leaders of TC 249 and TC 215 engaged in an in-depth discussion. In recent years, TC 215 has established several new task force groups, including Process and Quality Improvement.

TC 215 has launched the development of a standard data element repository and initially built a test webpage, which provides positive implications for TC 249 in advancing the digitalization and intelligentization of standards. The integration of AI technology in the healthcare sector has attracted considerable attention.

To date, TC 249 and TC 215 have jointly published 31 standards in TCM informatics, with several officially published and progressing through the systematic review process. At this session, seven new proposals were submitted, focusing on a semantic classification framework for TCM informatics.



The Anniversary of the Chinese Medicine Theme Day and the 10th Overseas Chinese Conference on Chinese Medicine

The event was organized by the World Federation of Chinese Medicine Societies (WFCMS) and the World Federation of Acupuncture-Moxibustion Societies (WFAS). Concurrently, the ceremony for issuing SCM 86-2025, International Clinical Practice Guideline for Chinese Medicine: Childhood and Adolescent Myopia, was held. This standard provides a Chinese medicine-based solution to the global challenge of myopia among children and adolescents.



The 22nd World Congress of Chinese Medicine was successfully convened in Sydney, Australia on October 31, 2025

The event was successfully convened in Sydney, Australia, from October 31 to November 1, 2025. The theme was “Global Vision for TCM Culture Promotion and Technological Innovation.” The Congress attracted more than 8,000 on-site TCM practitioners, officials, and manufacturers from 24 countries and regions worldwide. The opening ceremony and keynote speeches were broadcast live, drawing over 5.6 million views. The WFCMS Council agreed that the 23rd World Congress of Chinese Medicine would be held in Singapore next year.

- World Federation of Acupuncture-Moxibustion Societies -



Progress of global health governance and international standards

Progress in global health governance and international standards has been achieved through strengthened standardization collaboration and active contribution to global health governance. The World Health Organization (WHO) renewed official relations with us and agreed on a three-year collaboration plan for 2025–2027. Experts were designated to attend the 156th WHO Executive Board session and the 78th World Health Assembly, focusing on the WHO Global Traditional Medicine Strategy 2025–2034 and supporting its implementation. Through public solicitation, project tendering, and expert review, 26 new WFAS international acupuncture standards were approved for development in 2025. The dissemination of these standards was enhanced via the dedicated development of Guidelines and Standards in Chinese Medicine and through the Standards Application Training Program.

WFAS 2025 International Symposium on Acupuncture-Moxibustion

The Symposium was successfully convened in Stockholm, bringing together over 480 participants. The two-day event comprised seven academic sub-forums and eight workshops, with more than 110 oral presentations and over 150 papers collected. The symposium further strengthened international academic exchange and advanced global dialogue on the modernization and integration of acupuncture-moxibustion.



05

MEETING SCHEDULES FOR ISO/TC 249 IN 2026

- Meeting schedules for ISO/TC 249 in 2026 -

Meeting	Date	Venue
The 16th plenary meeting of ISO/TC 249	October 2026	TBD
The 1st plenary meeting of ISO/TC 249/SC 1	31 May - 5 June, 2026	Tokyo, Japan
The 1st plenary meeting of ISO/TC 249/SC 2	TBD	TBD



Cheers to
a fresh new start of 2026 !

Contact us

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