



ACUPUNCTURE NEWS

## New WHO Report: Encouraging Signs

Editorial Staff | DIGITAL EXCLUSIVE

It's clear the profession is continuing to make progress in the U.S.; however, the latest *World Health Organization (WHO) Global Report on Traditional and Complementary Medicine 2019* breaks down the progress being made worldwide. It also assesses the implementation of efforts put in place by the *WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2014-2023*, published in 2013, and written in response to the World Health Assembly resolution on traditional medicine (WHA62.13).<sup>1-2</sup>

Upon reaching the strategic plan's halfway point, it seems WHO is on the right track. As the executive summary states, "Globally, the landscape for [Traditional & Chinese Medicine] has been improving consistently. In line with the WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2002-2005 and the WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2014-2023, and relevant World Health Assembly resolutions, Member States took steps between 2005 and 2018 to promote the safety, quality and effectiveness of T&CM. They also took steps for the appropriate integration of T&CM into health systems (particularly health services) by developing national policies, regulatory frameworks and strategic plans for T&CM products, practices and practitioners."



The report is broken into five sections: 1) national framework for traditional and complementary medicine; 2) regulatory status of herbal medicines; 3) practice, providers, education and health insurance; 4) challenges and the need for WHO support; and 5) country summaries. To review the complete report please [click here](#).

### *References*

1. *WHO Global Report on Traditional and Complementary 2019*. Geneva: World Health Organization, 2019.
2. *WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy 2014-2023*. Hong Kong, SAR, China, 2013: p 11.

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