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Another goal of the WFCMS is improving the standards of translation and language use within the international Chinese medical community. The WFCMS recognizes that the current lack of standards causes undue simplification of traditional concepts, as well as widespread inconsistencies in translated works. Currently, potential distortions in meaning are common, hampering efficient translation and comprehension. In an effort to improve this situation, the WFCMS recently published the first edition

of its text, *Basic Nomenclature in Traditional Chinese Medicine*.

Dr. Choi Seung-Hoon, the leader of the terminology efforts of WHO Western Pacific Region, announced in the opening session meeting that WHO is currently working with WFCMS on terminology standards. WHO has just published its work, *WHO International Standard Terminologies on Traditional Medicine in the Western Pacific Region*, which contains 4,000 basic, technical key terms that must be preserved in translation.

WHO is also working to implement traditional diseases and pattern diagnoses into the newest version of the ICD (International Classification of Disease) codes. This development is of great significance to Western practitioners, as the implementation of traditional medicine into the ICD-11 codes will set the stage for enhanced future health care integration by providing diagnostic and billing codes for traditional patterns and disease categories.

The AAAOM is aware of the impact of terminology standards on professional education and clinical practice. The AAAOM recognizes that its members are interested in having access to a greater degree of integration into mainstream medical billing and recordkeeping. Consequently, it is forming a committee to investigate issues in terminology to provide feedback to groups such as the WFCMS and the WHO. Currently, the AAAOM has representation on the WFCMS Nomenclature Committee and the WHO Terminology Committee. Additionally, the AAAOM's strengthened delegate representation in the WFCMS opens the door for it to have even more direct contact with other WHO committees that impact the profession.

The next meeting of the WFCMS is planned for spring 2008, and the AAAOM plans to have a full delegation of representatives.

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