Title of Project: Exploring evidence of safety of use of Chinese herbal medicine for women with breast cancer

(FOR Code/s): 1104

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Location of Project: Campbelltown

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Project Background

Many women with breast cancer or history of breast cancer use Chinese herbal medicine (CHM) for managing adverse effects or for future prevention [1], however there are concerns about whether CHM is a safe alternative for women with breast cancer in terms of potential impact on the sex hormones, given the link between higher level of sex hormones and breast cancer is well established.

This project is part of a series of study under a theme of complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) research in breast cancer; it is also an international collaborative project preparing for a clinical trial in the near future.

Aim of Study:

To evaluate the contents of phytoestrogens in defined Chinese herbal formula

Methods:

An extensive literature review will be conducted to evaluate possible phytoestrogen compounds in individual herbal ingredient of the formula. Contents of potential phytoestrogens in the formula extracts will be determined by HPLC or LC-MS. Estrogenic activity in cells may also be investigated.

Ethics Application Requirements:

N/A

Key References: