

# Pacific College of Oriental Medicine Chicago Clinic

## Chinese Herbal Quality Control Standards

We carry raw herbs, granules and granular formulas only by manufacturers who adhere to the following quality control standards:

1. Perform batch testing and provide certificate analysis of each batch
2. Test for accuracy of ingredients
3. Test for pesticides, herbicides, fungicides
4. Test for heavy metals
5. Provide batch/lot number and expiration dates

### **Additional Measures to ensure safest use of Chinese herbal medicine:**

- Interns have taken courses in pharmacology, biochemistry and biology, as well as Chinese individual herbal medicine, formulas and theory. All supervisors are trained at Master's level as acupuncturists and herbalists and have been practicing in the field for at least 5 years. They are national board certified in Chinese Herbology and/or Oriental Medicine
- Interns and supervisors check for herb-drug interactions as needed or at the request of patient via herb -drug interaction databases and pharmecodynamic (what medications do in the body) worksheets.
- Monitoring of patients: PCOM asks all patients to follow up within one week for those taking herbal medicines and we typically see those patients weekly for at least 2-3 months. If any unusual signs or symptoms occur, patient should stop taking herbs and notify the Pacific College Clinic as soon as possible so that we may assist you in how to best continue your care.

For any questions please contact our Herbs Manager:

Kathryn Herrera, L.Ac., Dipl. OM  
(e) kherrera@pacificcollege.edu  
(p) 773-477-1900