Traditional, Complementary and Alternative Medicine: Policy and Public Health Perspectives

This is the first book to address public health issues in traditional, complementary and alternative medicine (TCAM).

The book presents state-of-the-art reviews of TCAM research in a range of priority public health areas such as malaria and HIV and in such common ailments as skin conditions and orthopedic injury in developing countries. Contributions analyze policy trends in areas such as financing of TCAM and education and training in this field as well as selected case studies of model TCAM projects. Important chapters on research methodology, ethical and safety issues, and intellectual property rights pertaining to traditional medicine are also presented.

Public financing for TCAM is a test of the commitment of governments, and the book includes an analysis from the World Health Organization’s (WHO) Global Atlas data of the worldwide trends in this area. With safety concerns foremost in the minds of both policy makers and the public, the book offers a global overview of policy and legislative trends in this field as well as an important set of guidelines for pharmacovigilance and TCAM products.

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