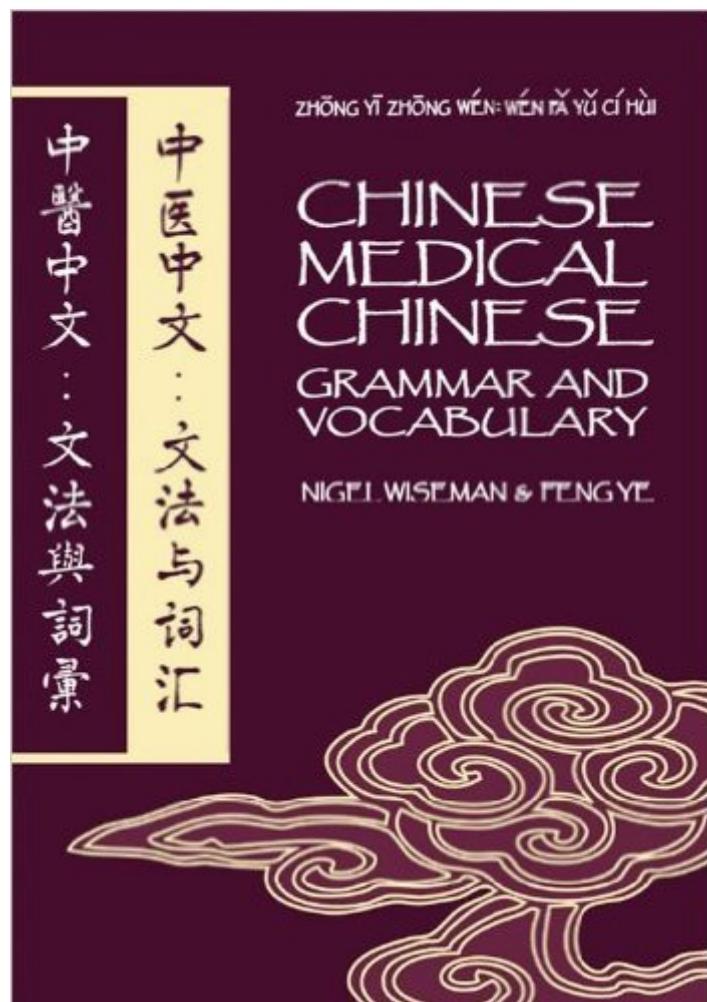


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# Chinese Medical Chinese: Grammar And Vocabulary



## Synopsis

This is a very sophisticated and highly useful work for the student or practitioner of Chinese medicine who is acquiring the original medical language of his/her profession. The work assumes that the student has already acquired a knowledge of how Chinese characters are composed, how they are written by hand, and how they are pronounced. While the text itself can be navigated entirely in Pinyin, students should know how to use Chinese language dictionaries. Anyone who has basic knowledge of Chinese can use this book to acquire more than 2,500 terms. The book is presented in two parts. The first describes the basic features of the literary language of Chinese medicine and its relationship to the language of the classical period and to the modern vernacular of northern China (known as Mandarin). It explains many grammatical constructions commonly encountered in Chinese medical texts and describes in detail how Chinese medical terms are composed. The second part presents vocabulary and terminology as its component characters. The discussions are organized in categories that cover Basic Theories, Diseases, Pathomechanisms and Pattern Identification, Principles and Methods of Treatment, Chinese Pharmaceutics, and Acupuncture. The characters are introduced in sets according to subject matter (e.g. the five phases, inspection of the tongue, pulse-taking, women's diseases, etc.). Each of these sets is followed by a section that presents examples of compound terms which use the characters thus far introduced. There are drills that test the vocabulary, with answers at the end of the book. In all cases, the Pinyin pronunciation and English rendering of each term are given, with Kenyon and Knott phonetic transcriptions of the English renderings for the benefit of non-English-speaking learners. The four appendices include the answers to the 912 self-test questions, Chinese medicinals and formulas by treatment principle (e.g. exterior-resolving formulas) and the names of channel points. A complete English-Pinyin-Chinese and Pinyin-Chinese English index of all the single characters introduced in the text provides access to the basic elements of the terminology.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is not so much a grammar book, but a book that has common medical verbs linked with their nouns. There are no sentences presented and the book doesn't really teach much of anything, but instead has a series of lists. If you are needing to build up your vocabulary, this book might be helpful if you do not already have this author's dictionary. If you have his dictionary, then there is nothing new here. Additionally, the only way to really use this book is to sit down and memorize things—quite a boring way to learn to read Chinese. Additionally, this is a book about modern medical Chinese and contains no classical grammar. For that, you will need Goodman's Classical Chinese Medical Texts: Learning to Read the Classics of Chinese Medicine (Vol. I). If you are looking to learn to read modern medical texts, then Unschuld's Learn to Read Chinese: An Introduction to the Language and Concepts of Current Zhongyi Literature series is a bit better than this. If you like long lists of terminology with no context whatsoever, then this book is for you.

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