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### **ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT**

# Employing observational method for prospective data collection: a case study for analyzing diagnostic process and evaluating efficacy of TCM treatments for diabetes mellitus

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#### **Abstract**

#### Ethnopharmacological relevance

With the mounting pandemic of glucose metabolism dysregulation and type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2DM), traditional medicine such as traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) recipes has been widely adopted as a part of therapeutic approach, especially in Asian countries.

## Aim of the study

A novel approach, which is adopted from cohort studies from epidemiology has been applied to explore the clinical efficacy, as well as the herbal component selection of a variety of TCM formulations against T2DM.

#### Materials and Methods

In the current study, 98 newly diagnosed T2DM patients were recruited in two hospitals. Over a span of 4 weeks, the patients were treated by prescriptions of their individual TCM physicians. General TCM symptoms, blood glucose parameters, as well as general metabolic health

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