KOOS-QOL and SF-12 Physical Scale scores were inversely related to all treatments.

**Conclusions:** CAM use is commonly used to treat joint and arthritis pain among persons with knee OA. The extent to which these treatments are effective in managing symptoms and slowing disease progression remains to be proven.

### 233. Concurrent Use of High Risk Western Medications with Traditional Chinese Medicine: One Year Population-Based Study in Taiwan

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**Background:** While Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) is recognized as an orthodox medicine in Taiwan, the concurrent use of Western Medicine with TCM might result in unintended consequences.

**Objectives:** To examine the use patterns of high risk western medications (HRWM) with TCM in Taiwan and to identify factors associated with such concurrent use.

**Methods:** A cross-sectional study using 2005 National Health Insurance Research Database in Taiwan was conducted. Diagnosis, medication use, health service utilization, and health insurance coverage level among users of seven commonly used HRWM (i.e. aspirin, clopidogrel, digoxin, dipyridamole, heparin, ticlopidine, and warfarin) were evaluated. Concurrent use was defined as having overlapping use period of HRWM with TCM in 2005. The characteristics of concurrent HRWM-TCM users and HRWM-only users were compared using $t$ tests and $Chi$-square tests. Multivariate logistic regression was performed to identify factors associated with concomitant HRWM-TCM use.

**Results:** Of the 70,698 HRWM users, 13.24% used TCM currently for $26.4 \pm 42.57$ days. Aspirin users were most likely to use TCM. Factors that increased the odds of concurrent HRWM-TCM use included female sex, age $\geq 15$ years, number of outpatient visits $\geq 13$ times per year, average number of prescribed medication $\geq 4$ per year, medical expenditure $\geq 10,000$NTD per year, and diagnoses of acute respiratory infection, hypertension, gynecological diseases, liver disease, and arthritis. In contrast, having a diagnosis of cancer, diabetes, asthma, chronic respiratory diseases, or peptic ulcer were associated with reduced odds of concurrent HRWM-TCM use.

**Conclusions:** In Taiwan, 13% of HRWM users were prescribed with TCM concurrently. Whether such concomitant use is associated with adverse clinical outcomes warrants further investigation.

### 234. The Pattern of Use of Anti-Depressant Drugs in a Pediatric Population in a US Managed Care Population

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**Background:** Antidepressants have become one of the most commonly prescribed groups of medications in the United States (US).

**Objectives:** To describe the pattern of use of anti-depressant drugs among pediatric patients in a US commercially insured population.

**Methods:** PharMetrics, a national integrated healthcare claims database of managed care plans, was used to identify a cohort of new pediatric users of antidepressant drugs. New users were defined as individuals aged 1–17 years who had a first pharmacy claim for a prescription of an antidepressant with a date (index date) within the period from January 1 through December 31, 2007, and who had not been prescribed with any antidepressant drug during the 6 months prior to the index date. The frequency of antidepressant drug class dispensed, the potential psychiatric indications, and the concomitant medications were analyzed.

**Results:** Among the population aged 1–17 years enrolled in the database in 2007, a total of 29,456 individuals (0.6%) were identified as new pediatric users of antidepressants. Two thirds of the new users were 13 to 17 years old and 53% were females. Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) users accounted for 65%, tertiary tricyclic for 14% and dopamine norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors for 10%. Overall, 74% of new users had any mental disorder diagnosis code (ICD-9 290.xx-319.xx) identified as potential indication within a period of 6 months prior and 6 months after the index date. The most common potential psychiatric indications were depressive disorders (38%), neurotic disorder (34%), attention hyperactivity disorder (25%) and anxiety disorders (20%). Antibiotics were the most commonly concomitant medications prescribed (20.1%). Concomitant psychotherapy treatment was present in 39% of the individuals.

**Conclusions:** In 2007, 0.6% of this US commercially insured pediatric population was newly prescribed an antidepressant. SSRIs followed by tertiary tricyclic antidepressants were the most commonly prescribed group. Psychiatric conditions and psychotherapy treatment were common in this patient population.

### 235. An Analysis of HRT Usage between 2000 and 2009 Using GPRD in the UK

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