



Wildlife-friendly traditional medicine pledge

The Australian Acupuncture and Chinese Medicine Association (AACMA)

- **Acknowledges** that the use of wild animals in traditional medicine is cruel, unnecessary, harms ecosystems and habitats and is a major risk factor in the emergence and spread of zoonotic diseases like Covid-19 and therefore a severe risk to human health.
- **Recognises** that many wildlife species, for example, bears, tigers, lions and pangolins, used in traditional medicine are often poached from the wild or cruelly bred in captivity, representing both an animal welfare and conservation concern.
- **Understands** that use of wild animals is cruel, wholly unjustified and unethical as plant and humane alternatives are readily available, safer and cheaper.
- **Believes** that the use of wildlife in traditional medicine is a hindrance to transforming, modernising and globalising the practice.

And therefore:

- **Shares a vision with World Animal Protection that wild animals belong in the wild.**
- **Commits** to advocating against the use of wildlife in traditional medicine in their code of practice, ethics and professional conduct and in public engagement activities.
- **Commits** to raising-awareness among practitioners, patients, and students about human health risks, animal welfare and conservation concerns associated with traditional medicine containing wildlife and the availability of plant and humane alternatives.
- **Actively supports** and promotes animal-free traditional medicine in all areas of work to encourage wildlife-friendly traditional medicine.

Signed by:

Waveny Holland

AACMA President

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