

平成 30 年度「日本薬局方の試験法等に関する研究」研究報告

生薬の鏡検に関する研究 (第 2 報)^{*4}

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Study of Microscopic Examination of Crude Drugs (Part 2)

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Summary

In the Japanese Pharmacopoeia (JP), microscopic examination of crude drugs is very important to decide whether or not they meet the required specifications. Observations of morphology, the size of organs or cells, and the cell contents form a key part of the JP criteria.

However, in the absence of visual information, such as schematic drawings or illustrations for each crude drug, considerable experience is needed to observe and identify internal morphology by means of microscopic observation.

Therefore, the aims of this study were as follows: (1) to investigate images of commercial Glycyrrhiza and Bupleurum, (2) to accumulate images of sections, taking into consideration that they are influenced by the kinds of original plant or the method used to prepare raw materials into crude drugs, and (3) to interpret the internal morphological characteristics with the aid of these images in the context of the JP descriptions and the draft descriptions for the JP 18th edition.

Key words

Japanese Pharmacopoeia, Crude drugs, Microscopic examination, Identification, Tissue sections, Internal morphology