

TOK EXHIBITION – What counts as good evidence for a claim?  
(Knowledge and indigenous societies)



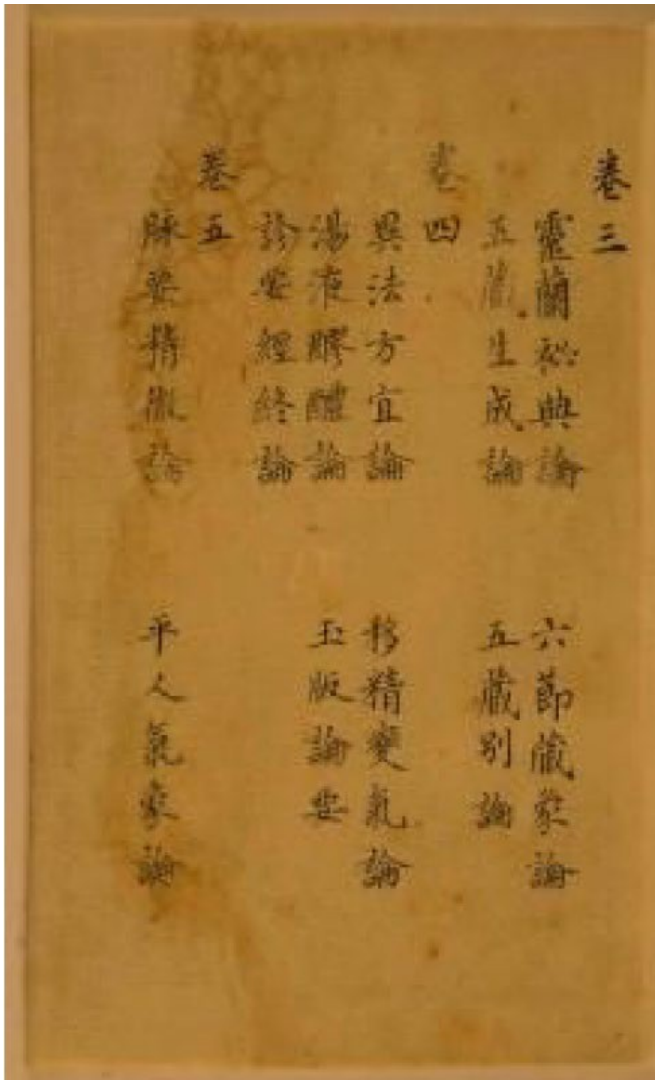
Object 1:

Cupping therapy is one of the Chinese alternative medicines in which a local suction is created on the skin. This has already been referenced back to 281~361 AC. Through suction, the skin is drawn into the cup by creating a vacuum in the cup placed on the skin over the targeted area. It is believed by some to help treat pain, deep scar tissues in the muscles and connective tissue, muscle knots, and swelling, though it has not really any good evidence it has any benefit on health. Many people, including the swimming champion Micheal Phelps believes this is an efficient method so lots of people use it nowadays. So even though there is not really good evidence that it works people still think that it works and they see many famous people using it so they want to use it as well.



## Object 2

Ham chuk fung ( 咸 竹 蜂 ), this is a type of famous medicine in Chinese, Hong Kong. The medication is used to cure sore throat, this is used since the Ching dynasty in 1765. People will capture those bees in Autumn and winter as they are easier to capture, they will put the bee in the bamboo, then close the bamboo hole, and sit with burning fire, bees will then suffocate, dry it and put it in salt for preserving it. This is a common medicine for Chinese people that they are still using nowadays. People still use it because they see that it works to cure sore throat. If it did not work then they would not still use it nowadays.



### Object 3

Huangdi Neijing, ( 黃帝內經 ) is an ancient Chinese medical text that has been treated as the fundamental source for Chinese medicine for more than two millennia. The work is composed of two texts—each of eighty-one chapters or treatises in a question-and-answer format between the mythical Yellow Emperor and six of his equally legendary ministers. The Chinese medicine history scholars Paul Unschuld, Hermann Tessenow and their team at the Institute for the History of Medicine at Munich University have translated the Neijing Suwen into English, including an analysis of the historical and structural layers of the Suwen. This work was published by the University Of California Press in July, 2011. If this object is gone, the whole evidence of Chinese medicine will also be gone. As these kinds of books shows the way of thinking in ancient people, they can also show the knowledge of knowing with different perspectives instead of just scientific explanation.