

<b>Title</b>	<b>Cupping therapy</b>
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<b>Reference</b>	Technology Review Report 010/2012, online: <a href="http://www.moh.gov.my/technology_reviews/222">http://www.moh.gov.my/technology_reviews/222</a>

## Aim

To assess the efficacy, effectiveness and safety of cupping therapy in treating diseases or medical conditions such as herpes zoster, facial paralysis, back pain, spondylosis, cerebrovascular accident, hypertension, fibromyalgia, bronchitis, asthma and headache.

## Conclusions and results

Three full text articles (one systematic review and two systematic reviews with meta-analysis) were included in this technology review discussing the efficacy and effectiveness of cupping therapy, with or without comparative treatments. As for safety issues, two articles discussed on the adverse effects of cupping therapy. This review showed that there is insufficient high quality evidence to support the effectiveness of cupping therapy in treating diseases or medical conditions. Although cupping therapy is considered relatively safe and no major adverse effects were reported as a result of the therapy, it is very important to ensure that the practitioners are properly trained and aware of the dangers involved in the cupping therapy.

## Methods

Electronic databases were searched through the MEDLINE(R) In-process and other Non-Indexed Citations and Ovid MEDLINE(R) 1948 to present, EBM Reviews - Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials and EBM Reviews - Health Technology Assessment. Other databases searched were PubMed, Cochrane Library, Australia & New Zealand Horizon Scanning Network (ANZHSN) and US Food & Drugs Administration (US FDA).

## Further research/reviews required

More high quality clinical trials are warranted to provide evidence on efficacy, effectiveness and safety of cupping therapy.

## Written by

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