



**The Chinese University of Hong Kong  
Non-confidential Abstract of Technology Disclosure**

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**Title:**

**Polymerase Chain Reaction - Restriction Fragment Length Polymorphism Test for the Authentication of Traditional Chinese Medicines**

**CUHK Ref. No.:**

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**Inventor:**

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**Patent Status:**

- ◆ US Patent no. 5,876,977
- ◆ US Patent no. 6,309,840
- ◆ Chinese Patent no. ZL98100001.0

**Non-confidential abstract:**

This invention provides a procedure for authentication of plant and animal materials used as traditional Chinese medicine. This method amplifies and detects the discrete and species-specific RFLP patterns in the region of rDNA. The present invention offers a reliable and definite way to identify morphologically similar Chinese medicine, using a minute amount of biological samples. Its application in the authentication of American and Oriental ginsengs is illustrated in detail.

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