



## Currents of tradition in Chinese medicine, 1626-2006

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What is "traditional" about "traditional Chinese medicine" (TCM)? How can one reconcile the diachronic and synchronic heterogeneity of Chinese medical beliefs and practices with the idea that they constitute a coherent system? Few provide more thoughtful answers than the TCM practitioner and anthropologist Volker Scheid. *Currents of Tradition* takes a complementary approach, analyzing how medical traditions maintain their identity even as their form and content are altered across place and time. His focus is the historically important "current of learning" (pai) associated with the southeastern town of Menghe.