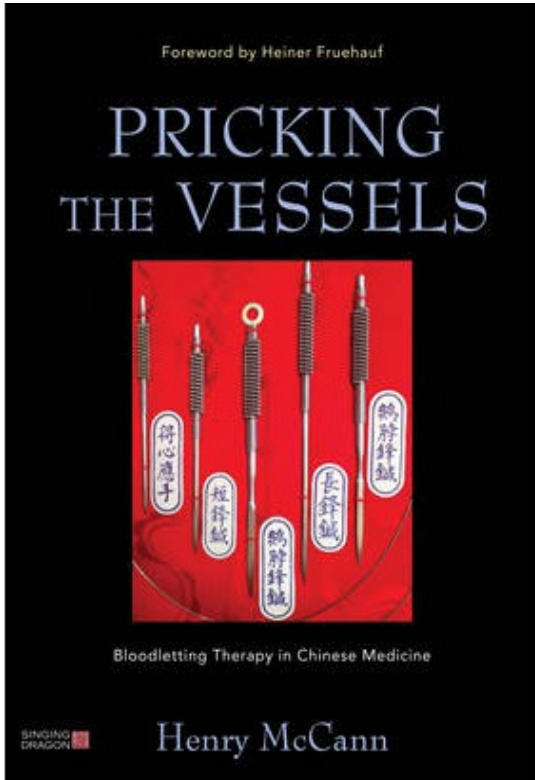


Pricking the Vessels: Bloodletting Therapy in Chinese Medicine



McCANN Henry



The first text on bloodletting therapy for Western practitioners of Chinese medicine, this authoritative introduction explores the history, theory and function of the practice. Bloodletting therapy, which works to remove internal and external disruptions to the system through the withdrawal of small quantities of blood, has numerous benefits, especially concerning the treatment of complex or chronic disease. Yet the technique is often met with alarm in the West (and in some areas is illegal) and side-lined in favour of less controversial treatments such as moxibustion.

This book provides a concise overview of bloodletting therapy. It clarifies the fundamental Chinese medical theory related to blood and the network vessels, and explores the history, including the classical acupuncture lineage of Tung Ching Chang whose work is attracting increasing attention in the West. It also features in-depth discussion on the benefits of and practice guidelines for bloodletting. Through the exploration of classic texts and contemporary standards, the book provides everything needed to gain a comprehensive understanding of the technique and to encourage its use as a viable treatment option in the West. The book is a complete and eye-opening resource on bloodletting therapy, and will be an invaluable addition to the libraries of acupuncturists, as well as students and practitioners of Chinese medicine and anyone interested in Chinese approaches to health.

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