

Characteristics of Included Studies

No.	Author(s) & Year	Country/Region	Research Objective	Study Design / Method	Main Findings	Traditional Medicine Transformation Theme
1	Gakuya et al. (2020)	Kenya	To examine the historical development, current status, challenges, and future directions of traditional medicine in Kenya.	Narrative review and policy analysis	Traditional medicine remains widely practiced in Kenya but faces challenges related to regulation, scientific validation, research capacity, and integration into formal healthcare systems.	Integration and Modernization through regulation and evidence-based development
2	Mattalia et al. (2020)	Ukraine–Romania border (Carpathian Mountains)	To explore knowledge transmission patterns and transformation of traditional ecological knowledge among Hutsul communities.	Ethnobotanical study using interviews and field observation	Traditional knowledge is transmitted across generations while simultaneously adapting through interaction with external knowledge sources and social changes.	Persistence and Adaptation through knowledge hybridization
3	Wang et al. (2021)	China	To investigate the application of Chinese Traditional Medicines in biomaterial development and regenerative medicine.	Experimental biomedical research	Chinese traditional medicine compounds incorporated into collagen biomaterials enhanced mesenchymal stem cell proliferation, demonstrating biomedical potential.	Biotechnology-based Innovation
4	Eze et al. (2021)	Africa (Pan-African perspective)	To propose a collaborative framework for generating scientific evidence of traditional medical practices against emerging diseases.	Conceptual review and policy perspective	Strengthening scientific evidence and regional collaboration is essential for positioning traditional medicine in global health responses.	Scientific Validation and Integration
5	Mbongwa et al. (2021)	South Africa	To investigate perceptions and beliefs regarding medicinal plant cultivation among traditional healers and herbal traders.	Qualitative ethnobotanical research	Some practitioners resist cultivation because cultivated plants are perceived as having reduced spiritual significance compared with wild plants.	Cultural Persistence and Modernization Challenges
6	Bhattacharjya et al. (2023)	Assam, India	To document traditional phytomedicinal knowledge based on ethnobotanical practices.	Ethnobotanical survey	Traditional plant knowledge remains an important cultural heritage transmitted through community practices.	Knowledge Preservation and Cultural Continuity
7	Xia (2023)	China	To analyze intellectual property challenges in protecting traditional medical knowledge.	Legal and policy analysis	Existing intellectual property systems face difficulties protecting collective and intergenerational traditional knowledge.	Modernization, Regulation, and Knowledge Protection
8	Ung et al. (2023)	Global	To examine public attitudes and utilization patterns toward traditional, complementary, and integrative medicine.	Systematic review	The use of traditional medicine is influenced by cultural beliefs, accessibility, health perceptions, and social factors.	Health Literacy and Healthcare Choice
9	Kropi et al. (2024)	Northeast India	To analyze traditional herbal medicine use for women's health conditions across cultural groups.	Cross-cultural qualitative study	Traditional medicine practices remain embedded in family knowledge transmission and community health practices while interacting with modern information sources.	Persistence and Adaptation

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10	Musyaffa et al. (2024)	Indonesia	To develop an artificial intelligence-based system for medicinal plant recognition.	Deep learning and computer vision experiment	Transfer learning and CNN models successfully improved medicinal plant identification accuracy, supporting digital preservation of ethnobotanical knowledge.	Digitalization and Artificial Intelligence Innovation
11	Galvin et al. (2025)	Limpopo Province, South Africa	To explore cultural beliefs and traditional practices related to pregnancy loss.	Qualitative study using interviews	Health experiences are shaped by spiritual beliefs, ancestral concepts, and cultural interpretations of illness and healing.	Cultural Values and Spiritual Health Beliefs
12	Madlala and Shange (2025)	KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa	To explore pregnant women's experiences regarding the use of isihlambezo traditional medicine.	Qualitative descriptive study	Traditional medicine use among pregnant women is influenced by cultural beliefs, social support, economic conditions, and health perceptions.	Cultural Persistence and Community Healthcare Practice
13	Sharma and Tabasum (2025)	Himalayan Region, India	To explore traditional therapeutic practices in Himalayan communities.	Qualitative ethnographic study	Traditional medicine is viewed as a holistic healthcare system integrating physical, psychological, spiritual, and social dimensions.	Holistic Knowledge System and Cultural Continuity
14	Tian et al. (2025)	China	To identify therapeutic potential of natural compounds and herbal prescriptions for inflammatory diseases.	Molecular docking and pharmacological analysis	Computational approaches support the discovery and validation of bioactive compounds from traditional medicine resources.	Scientific Validation and Modern Pharmacology
15	Gerner et al. (2025)	Italy (South Tyrol)	To explore stakeholder perspectives regarding medicinal plants as culturally important species.	Qualitative stakeholder analysis	Sustainable medicinal plant development requires collaboration among communities, researchers, policymakers, and practitioners.	Stakeholder Collaboration and Sustainable Development