Have you ever looked inside a Chinese medical hall and wondered what was inside the various bottles? Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) has been used for thousands of years in China to cure a whole range of diseases. Now, TCM is making its way into countries all over the world. Let's find out more from Mr. David Picard, Chief Executive Officer of Moleac, a biopharmaceutical company.

My name: David Picard

What I do: I am the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and co-founder of Moleac, a TCM company.

What it takes to do what I do: Though I was trained in engineering, I have been a management consultant for over 10 years. In a company like Moleac, I need to have lots of energy and enthusiasm.

Why I do what I do: I see my work as an opportunity to make a major contribution by enabling Eastern and Western doctors to work together. In doing so, we are helping people have a better quality of life.
What does Moleac do?
Moleac is a Singapore-based biopharmaceutical company that works with doctors to introduce new medical products from China into Western countries. The company aims to bridge the gap between traditional and modern medicine.

Tell us about some of your new products.
We have two new products that we will be selling in several countries, including Singapore.

The first product is called Neuroaid. It is a natural medicine containing a mixture of 14 extracts. It helps patients to recover from brain stroke faster. Neuroaid was initially developed in one of China’s main hospitals for treating stroke. Moleac carried out further tests to show that use of Neuroaid results in faster and better recovery in stroke patients, with no negative effects. Soon, Neuroaid will be used in rehabilitation centres in Singapore.

Our second product is a device designed to help people stop smoking. In China, it was originally developed to treat drug addiction. Moleac developed a similar approach for tobacco. Unlike anti-smoking patches, which provide a replacement of nicotine in cigarettes, Moleac's device helps the body to restore its natural chemical balance. This device helps to curb addiction by stimulating the acupuncture points in the body.

Moleac is also developing products that can help to treat cancer, reduce menopausal symptoms and reduce the side effects of chemotherapy.
How do you ensure that your products are safe and effective?

Moleac's products come from China, where they have already proven to be very effective. In addition, we conduct our own tests, called clinical trials, to show that these products will benefit patients.

In 2005, a number of clinical trials were conducted on Neuroaid. They showed that Neuroaid is beneficial to stroke patients. Leading doctors from Australia, Europe and Asia are now conducting a major clinical trial to find out more on its benefits and safety. We have also done clinical trials at the National University Hospital on the anti-smoking device.

What is a typical day at work like for you?

Every day is different. As the CEO of Moleac, I decide how the company will move ahead, manage its growth, and focus on hiring and training staff. I'm responsible for identifying scientific, clinical and business partners in other countries. Usually, I choose which products we want to develop, and work with different organisations to bring these products to the Western medical markets.

I manage a team of doctors who conduct tests to show that these products are effective. I also need to register our products with the right authorities. Outside the office, I work on developing the company, by finding partners who can bring new ideas for our products or help us to sell them.

So, the next time you visit a Chinese medical hall, don’t just dismiss it. Traditional Chinese Medicine may help to save your life one day!

For more information, visit Moleac's website at www.moleac.net