

## **Double Diagnosis**

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TCM and Western medicine are different medical systems. With different methodology, each of them develops their own diagnosis and treatment. Both of them have their advantages and disadvantages.

X-ray, ultrasound, blood test, endoscope and biopsy, etc. are diagnostic methods of Western medicine, which mainly focus on aetiology and pathology, organic structural changes on micro level, diagnose physical “diseases” of human being, such as gastroduodenal ulcers, etc.

Through observation, interrogation, tongue and pulse diagnosis, etc., TCM mainly looks at patients on macro level, which “TCM diseases” were diagnosed, such as “Liver Qi stagnation”, etc.

There are at least four major factors involving in the onset of diseases. They are: 1. aetiology and pathology, organic structural changes; 2. functional disorders, 3. constitutional factors and 4. mental status. They have close relationship and influence each other. Western medicine mainly look at aetiology and pathology meanwhile TCM illness are more including functional, constitutional and mental disorder, they are clinical conditions which need to be treated although some of these diseases are so called sub-clinical conditions.

Western medicine can diagnose such as cancer, gastric ulcers, gall bladder stone, hepatitis C, etc. which TCM can not do so. On the other hand, TCM can diagnose such as Liver Qi stagnation, Spleen deficiency, Yin deficiency with hyperactive Yang, and Blood stagnation, etc. which western medicine can't.

The above diseases diagnosed by the two systems are all clinical conditions which need to be treated. With the differing advantages and disadvantages of the both medical systems, none of the current medical diagnosis is able to provide a full picture of a patient, which means that any single diagnostic method is insufficient and incomplete. Therefore effectiveness of treatments is negatively influenced by the incompleteness of the diagnosis.

Conclusion:

1. Double diagnosis for a patient with both western medicine and TCM provide clearer understanding and complete medical condition of a patient.
2. Clearer diagnosis increases clinical effectiveness of treatment.
3. Thus double diagnosis should be conducted for every patient.
4. Only TCM practitioners can have double diagnosis in this stage.

## **Clinical Study on Treatment of Stage III Stomach Cancer with Combination of Chinese & Western Medicine**

China Academy of Chinese Medical Science, Beijing, China, April 2006

- Combination of Western Medicine + Chinese Medicine achieves better clinical results.
- Improving digestion
- Overcoming fatigue
- Protecting marrow function
- Strengthening phagocytosis
- Improving life quality
- Preventing from relapse and metastasis , etc.
- The top 5 years survival rate is 30% world wide, it shows 53.49% with combination of Chinese and Western Medicine (Chemo) treatment

<b>Group</b>	<b>Total cases</b>	<b>Completion of Chemo course</b>
<b>Chemo MFV only</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>73.33%</b>
<b>Herbs + Chemo</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>94.49%</b>

P<0.01

<b>Survival</b>	<b>Total N</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>1year</b>	<b>300/303</b>	<b>99.10%</b>
<b>3 years</b>	<b>184/238</b>	<b>77.34%</b>
<b>5 years</b>	<b>102/191</b>	<b>53.49%</b>