

DISCOVER THE 3 BIGGEST
PROBLEMS WITH TRADITIONAL
CHINESE MEDICINE (TCM)

AND HOW THEY ARE STOPPING
YOU FROM GETTING THE BEST
CLINICAL RESULTS



What is the conceptual difference between Western Medicine and Classical Chinese Medicine?

Western Medicine

Causal Analytical Philosophy

Causal Analytical Science

Causal Analytical Medical Approach

The human being is described and explained by its objective structure. All metabolic functions and processes are causal derivations from this structure.

Medical Foundations: Anatomy, Physiology

How Does It Work?

- ▶ **Diagnosis** establishes the medical evidence by comparing the patient tangible data with a defined standard
- ▶ The derivation from the defined standard in causal relation to the patient's problem is the **Disease**
- ▶ **Treatment** aims to change the patients structural derivation according to the standards in expectation of curing the disease

Classical Chinese Medicine

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Conditional Philosophy

Conditional Science

Conditional Medical Approach

The human being is understood as a functional system, changing by connecting with and disconnecting from its environment. It is explained through its functions and their relations to the individual conditional framework. Other than in western medicine, there is no distinction or hierarchy between substance and process. (function)
Any substance is also a process.

Medical Foundation: concurrency of Being & Not Being /Connection & Disconnection /Yin & Yang and the relations of Being, Not Being, Becoming and Unbecoming to the conditional framework (Wu Xing)

How does it work?

- ▶ **Diagnosis** seeks to connect a dysfunctional process with relevant conditions (internally & externally) and establishes a **Conditional Pattern** (Question: Which conditions make that process possible?)
- ▶ The **Disease** causality is always relative, and directly depending on the individual conditional framework
- ▶ **Treatment** aims to change the relevant conditions for the disease causality, in order to allow a healthy process to develop. And it will stimulate the actual process to adapt faster to the corrected conditions

THE 3 BIGGEST PROBLEMS WITH TCM

Problem 1

Classical conditional foundations of Chinese Medicine were removed and exchanged with western concepts of anatomy & physiology

- ▶ The overall and consistent conditional approach was abandoned and with that the essential strength and logic of Chinese Medicine
- ▶ Efforts to merge these two distinct medical systems began around 1644 towards the end of the Ming Dynasty in China, the process was organized deliberately and systematically between 1949 and 1980
- ▶ There are complex historical, political and economical reasons
- ▶ The Chinese “Cultural Revolution” with the simplification and standardization of the traditional writing system was an important factor

Problem 2

Selected parts of classical concepts were then connected with the now westernized foundations

- ▶ Selected classical concepts were altered to fit the westernized system, many were simply removed
- ▶ Those altered concepts entered the after 1949 in the VR China published textbooks, as being old and “traditional”
- ▶ Famous classical textbooks (like the Nei Jing) were rewritten according to the new ideology and in the new writing system
- ▶ Causal analytic scientific research in China tried to legitimize and support those creations (from a western point of view)
- ▶ Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) was born and sold as being the true and only ancient chinese medicine at its best

Problem 3

The TCM functions of the organs are not plausibly explainable with the new TCM foundations

- ▶ The TCM organ functions are not plausibly explainable by the westernized TCM system
- ▶ The TCM organ functions are also not explainable by the anatomy and physiology of the organs
- ▶ Such a professional paradox detaches the medical functions and consequences from its conceptual foundations and hinders competent and constructive work and development
- ▶ critics are told to trust, respect and believe or to wait for future scientific explanations

How does this affect your clinical work:

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- ▶ Loss of the main strength of Chinese Medicine as a complimentary philosophical approach to western medicine
- ▶ Extreme reduction of clinical possibilities (e.g. medical psychiatry)
- ▶ Limitations in diagnosis and treatment due to the fixed association of selected functions to organs
- ▶ Simplification of facial diagnosis, tongue diagnosis, pulse diagnosis
- ▶ Simplification and standardization of acupuncture and tuina concepts
- ▶ Development within herbal medicine towards standardized formulas according to western diseases, instead of individual recipes
- ▶ Misunderstandings, logic gaps and jumbled up parts of western and Chinese medicine, which weaken important chinese concepts

Important historic events in Europe, influencing Western Medicine

- ▶ Polytheism was the cultural and philosophical background in ancient Greek society (the possibility of multiple truths)
- ▶ Heraclid (around 500 BC) philosophy of a flowing, relative reality (conditional concept)
- ▶ Aristoteles (around 350 BC) philosophy of a manifested, material reality (causal – analytical concept)
- ▶ Roman Republic (around 510 BC) initially adopts the Greek polytheism
- ▶ On 13th of January 27 BC the Roman Republic transforms into an Empire

- ▶ In the year 325 emperor Constantine adopts a monotheistic religion as state religion („one truth principle“)
- ▶ Around 529 the Roman Empire decays and leaves a globalised Europe with a broken infrastructure
- ▶ The social and economic needs were not met by the following powers
- ▶ The resulting problems in all areas of life in mediaeval times created the conditions and necessities to move development towards industrialised solutions
- ▶ The Renaissance, the Age of Enlightenment (1650 – 1800) and scientific revolution in Europa (1650) lead to a dominance of a causal – analytic philosophical approach in Europa

Important historic events in China, influencing Chinese Medicine

- ▶ The origin of Daoist philosophy lies in nature worship without a concept of divine creation
- ▶ Daoist philosopher Laozi 6th century BC – conditional concept
- ▶ Confucius (about 5th century BC) teachings of “Order” (causal – analytical)
- ▶ Height of Daoism, but also already in religion form, was the 4th century BC
- ▶ Ming Dynasty 1368-1644 isolated China from the western world, but could thereby maintain conditional concepts (Daoism)
- ▶ Ming Dynasty ended in 1644 with the beginning of the Qing Dynasty

- ▶ Qing Dynasty was a Manchu-Dynasty (different culture and traditions)
- ▶ End of Ming Dynasty caused opening of China for the western world with various cultural, political and philosophical influences
- ▶ Opium wars (1839-1842 und 1856-1860)
- ▶ „Unequal treaties“ following the Opium wars (1842-1915)
- ▶ The youth of China experienced the country politicly, cultural, intellectual and scientifically backwards, behind and weaker in relation to the west
- ▶ Everything „old“ is bad
- ▶ Qing Dynasty ends with the Xinhai Revolution and the foundation of the Republic of China on 01.01.1912 (Sun Yat-sen)

- ▶ Prohibition of Classical Chinese Medicine – dominance of western medicine
- ▶ Chinese civil war (1927-1949/ Mao Zedong, Chiang Kai-shek)
- ▶ Retreat of the republic of China and the Kuomintang to Formosa (Taiwan)
- ▶ Founding of the People's Republic of China on 01.10. 1949 as a communist dictatorship
- ▶ Limited approval of Classical Chinese Medicine, mainly to provide a basic medical care in rural areas
- ▶ Chinese cultural revolution (1966-1976)
- ▶ Radical rejection of classical concepts in all areas of life (and especially in philosophy and medicine)
- ▶ Writing reform 1956 in China (simplification of chinese characters, standardisation of sounds, definition of interpretation)

- ▶ Publications of new versions of classical texts with defined interpretations (especially daoist philosophical and classical medical texts)
- ▶ standardisation, simplification, systematisation and philosophical-political adaptation of complex classical medical concepts, with the final result in creating „Traditional Chinese Medicine“ (TCM)
- ▶ National and international presentation of TCM as the official and only version of the “old” chinese medicine
- ▶ Official equal status for TCM and western medicine in China
- ▶ Chinese reform and opening policy launched in 1978 under Deng Xiaoping

What can you do about it?

A thoroughly study of the classical foundations of Chinese Medicine can remedy all those Limitations!

Unbinding the full potential of Chinese Medicine as a unique conditional method

Getting the best clinical results possible

www.andreas-kuehne.com contact@andreas-kuehne.com

You are welcome to join my Facebook group: The 3 Big Problems with TCM

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/TCMproblems>