

## REDUCTIONISTIC AND HOLISTIC APPROACH IN CLINICAL REASONING

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### ABSTRACT

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Osteopaths talk often about the concept of finding and treating the cause of the disease/symptoms of the patient.

This may be an expression of a cause-effect frame of thinking, that belongs to a reductionistic concept, and make us suppose that Osteopathic Medicine may be less holistic than we take for granted.

What does a holistic concept mean for the clinical reasoning and the specific osteopathic diagnosis?

The first part in diagnosis is the anamnesis. During the anamnesis we learn to know the reason of the consultation and the history of the patient. What is a reductionistic approach in anamnesis, and how does the osteopath have to deal with the symptoms in a holistic way of thinking? What is a differential diagnosis for the osteopath?

The second part is the motion analysis. Motion analysis is far beyond a simple diagnosis, and is independent of the symptoms. We try to answer the following questions: what will I treat and how will I treat?

Holism in a osteopathic education diagnostic program stands e.g. for no modular training, a focus on knowledge of all the basic sciences, the use of this knowledge for more diagnostic tests, the use of inhibition tests and the right interpretation of all these tests .