From Macro Dialectic to Micro Dialectic—Advances in Science and Technology Promote the Development of TCM Syndrome Differentiation and Treatment

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Abstract: The macro-diagnosis emphasized by Chinese medicine refers to the fact that doctors collect the patient's body information through the "four diagnostics", look, hear, and ask, analyze and judge the information, and then obtain the nature, location, and pathogenesis of the disease. Traditional Chinese medicine treats diseases. It is mainly achieved through the grasp of the nature of the disease. With the development and integration of multiple disciplines, Chinese medicine has been further developed by absorbing modern scientific thinking and using modern technology to study Chinese medicine. From the perspective of scientific view and methodology, taking into account the overall and partial, integration and differentiation, and the unity of macro and micro, the establishment of a multi-targeted system with syndromes as the core and grasping the pathogenesis of a TCM clinical syndrome differentiation and treatment system is a modern scientific development. New direction.

Keywords: Macro-diagnosis; micro-diagnosis; technological development; combination of diseases

1. Introduction

There is a passage in the "Inner Canon" also known as the Yellow Emperor's Canon of Internal Medicine: "Those who are far away, hide the inside from the outside, and those who are close, hide the outside from the inside, which is called the extreme of yin and yang, and the cover of heaven and earth." The "distant" described here refers to predicting and judging the changes in the patient's internal organs by carefully observing the patient's subtle changes on the body surface; "near" refers to the doctor checking the changes in the patient's internal organs, and can also infer the pathological symptoms of the patient [1]. The macroscopic syndrome differentiation emphasized by traditional Chinese medicine means that doctors collect the patient's body information through the "four diagnostics", look, smell, ask, and examine, and then analyzes and judges the information to obtain the nature of the disease, disease location, and pathogenesis. a diagnostic process [2]. Microscopic syndrome differentiation is different. It mainly uses modern medicine to explain the changes in microscopic indicators of physiology and pathology in the body, and uses these to diagnose diseases. It can be considered as a modern development of the thinking inside and outside the Department of Traditional Chinese Medicine. We can also understand it in this way, the combination of micro-dialectics and macro-dialectics are shown in the figure below and external [3]. Macro-dialectics and micro-dialectics are shown in the figure below.

2. Macroscopic dialectics

Traditional Chinese medicine is a science that emphasizes the holistic view, starting from the earliest focus on natural changes and the interaction between the body, to paying attention to changes in space and time. Traditional Chinese medicine mainly focuses on the macroscopic syndrome of the patient and the external appearance of the patient. Get to know the human body. The macroscopic syndrome differentiation emphasized by traditional Chinese medicine means that doctors collect physical information of patients through "four diagnostics", look, smell, ask, and inquire, and analyze and judge the information to obtain the nature of the disease, disease location, and pathogenesis.主要是通过疾病的自然变化以及身体之间的相互影响，逐渐转向对空间和时间变化的关注。传统中医主要关注于患者的宏观症状以及身体的外部表现。了解人体。宏观的病证鉴别强调了医生通过"四诊"，即看、闻、问、切，来收集患者的背景信息，并分析和判断这些信息以获得疾病的本质、病位及病机。
syndromes through the data collected by the four clinics. The overall characteristics of macroscopic dialectics are the view of dynamic change, the view of the whole, the view of the individual, and the non-invasiveness of detection. At the same time, macroscopic syndrome differentiation also has some shortcomings, such as randomness, ambiguity, subjectivity in diagnosis, and lack of relatively objective evidence such as objective quantitative indicators emphasized by modern medicine, which often affects doctors' diagnosis and treatment of diseases. 

The macroscopic syndrome differentiation emphasized by traditional Chinese medicine first appeared in the Yellow Emperor's Classic of Internal Medicine. During the Eastern Han Dynasty, Zhang Zhongjing applied the macro-dialectical theories in the "Nei Jing" in his book "Treatise on Febrile Diseases and Miscellaneous Diseases", and used the theory of Pingmai syndrome differentiation to discuss the treatment and prescription. In particular, it uses the syndrome differentiation and treatment framework of the Six Classics, which has become the guideline for the treatment of exogenous fever by later generations of physicians. His other book is "The Synopsis of the Golden Chamber". After Zhang Zhongjing, dialectical treatment experienced two huge leaps, one in the period of the four great masters of Jin and Yuan. Among them, Liu Wansu made the greatest contribution. Liu Wansu perfected the system of pathogenesis and syndrome differentiation by discussing the changes in the ascending and descending and exiting of gasification and the chapters on pathogenesis in the internal classics. The second development was from the 19th century to the middle of the 20th century, when the introduction of modern Western medicine brought a huge impact on traditional Chinese medicine. This has led to the introduction of many modern disease names, that is, syndrome differentiation, in the process of syndrome differentiation and treatment, which is a syndrome-based diagnosis and treatment thinking.

3. Microscopic dialectics

With the development and integration of multiple disciplines, TCM studies TCM by absorbing modern scientific thinking and using modern technology. Dialectical treatment has been further developed. Due to the introduction of modern scientific systems theory, central cybernetics, information development theory, and mathematical and physical theories, the modernization of diagnosis and treatment has been given a new meaning. From the perspective of "three theories", syndrome differentiation and treatment is a process in which a doctor collects patient information, extracts, analyzes, and processes the information. Syndrome differentiation is the process of extracting and analyzing information to find out the eigenvalues of disease functions; treatment is the process of outputting treatment information, eliminating interference, and realizing correction. The application of cybernetics can also establish a cybernetics model of syndrome differentiation and treatment [5]. The macroscopic syndrome differentiation emphasized by traditional Chinese medicine means that doctors collect the patient's physical information through the "four diagnostics", look, smell, ask, and inquire. a diagnostic process. Therefore, the physical and chemical examination results obtained through modern technology are gradually accepted by people and included in the scope of "dialectics". The progress of modern technology has promoted the progress of traditional Chinese medicine [6].

4. The combination of macroscopic dialectics and microscopic dialectics

The macroscopic syndrome differentiation emphasized by traditional Chinese medicine means that doctors collect physical information of patients through "four diagnostics", look, smell, ask, and inquire, and analyze and judge the information to obtain the nature of the disease, disease location, and pathogenesis. Mainly through the grasp of the nature of the disease to achieve. After experiencing the integration of modern technology and multi-disciplinary, traditional Chinese medicine has also shifted from the original macroscopic syndrome differentiation to the microscopic syndrome differentiation. Imaging diagnosis and experimental diagnosis are widely used in the diagnosis and treatment of diseases. This modern testing method overcomes the inadequacy of traditional Chinese medicine to recognize diseases based on the five senses alone, greatly broadening the vision of doctors, and more importantly, using modern Scientific and technological means can make doctors' understanding of diseases more direct, convenient and efficient [7]. On the one hand, modern technology can better reveal the nature of disease differentiation; on the other hand, a large amount of reliable and objective evidence can better guide clinicians to conduct syndrome differentiation and treatment. These reasons make the emergence of microscopic syndrome differentiation an inevitable event. The difference between microscopic syndrome differentiation and traditional macroscopic syndrome differentiation is
that modern scientific and technological means are used in the clinical collection of patients' body information, and modern scientific theories are used to analyze the nature of the disease and observe the patient's body in a more subtle way. On the basis of continuous refinement. Through continuous and subtle analysis to find the evidence of microscopic dialectics, so as to realize microscopic dialectics [8]. When we conduct microscopic syndrome differentiation, we cannot use the theory of Western medicine to explain the disease. We should combine various physiological examinations and experimental indicators with the syndrome differentiation and treatment of traditional Chinese medicine. At the same time, the laboratory indicators of western medicine have become the indicators of syndrome differentiation and treatment in our clinical practice of traditional Chinese medicine. The development of modern technology has brought people into the micro world, allowing us to look at problems from a micro perspective. From different perspectives, it has been studied whether there is a relationship between macroscopic syndrome differentiation and microscopic indicators, which has also become a new basis for microscopic syndrome differentiation and treatment. The comparison of microscopic syndrome differentiation and macroscopic syndrome differentiation is still immature in all aspects. In the current situation, a lot of research work has just started, and some experiments and research conclusions are not mature enough. Microscopic syndrome differentiation, like a newborn, showed its strong vitality as soon as it appeared. The objectification and standardization of microscopic syndrome differentiation injected new vitality into traditional Chinese medicine.

5. Summary

Macroscopic syndrome differentiation is the longest used method of diagnosis and treatment in modern clinical work of traditional Chinese medicine. By grasping the relationship between the part and the whole, in the process of disease treatment, attention is paid to the damage of evil qi to the human body and the protective effect of righteous qi to the human body. Macroscopic dialectics can better characterize diseases, and at the same time, macroscopic dialectics also pays special attention to
the dynamic changes of diseases in the human body, so that the essence of diseases can be well grasped and clinical medication can be better guided[9]. Using macroscopic dialectical thinking to treat and examine diseases has great advantages that other methods of diagnosis and treatment do not have. However, with the development of modern science and technology and the progress of modern medicine, the diagnosis and treatment of diseases through macroscopic syndrome differentiation gradually reveals the insufficiency of macroscopic syndrome differentiation and the incompleteness of clinical syndrome differentiation. There is non-specificity in guiding medication, the diagnosis of diseases is too macroscopic, and the treatment of emergencies is very limited[10]. At this time, with the continuous development of science and technology, the TCM system of syndrome differentiation and treatment should also keep pace with the times. Traditional Chinese medicine clinicians have great shortcomings in diagnosing and treating diseases through four diagnosis. If they use the four diagnosis and the detection methods of modern traditional medicine, they can better solve the problem of unclear syndrome differentiation encountered in clinical practice, which is very good. Improve clinical efficacy. If we look at TCM clinical syndrome differentiation through the philosophical method of natural syndrome differentiation, then macroscopic syndrome differentiation is to look at the problem from an overall perspective, while microscopic syndrome differentiation is more to consider the local pathological changes of the disease[11]. At the same time, we must combine the characteristics of traditional Chinese medicines and prescriptions, not just to diagnose and treat diseases through experience, but also to analyze traditional Chinese medicines and prescriptions from the perspective of modern pharmacology, and establish multiple targets with syndromes as the core to grasp the pathogenesis. This is a new direction for the development of modern science.

References