

Peter-Georg Rademacher

Fascination – Electroacupuncture with VEGATEST

When patients first hear about Electroacupuncture, their reaction is often skeptical or astounded. It's true that Electroacupuncture carries a whiff of mysticism to this day. But Electroacupuncture (EAP) is a fascinating, scientifically sound diagnostic and therapeutic method that combines the ancient wisdom of Chinese acupuncture and homeopathic knowledge with modern electronics.

A Quick Historical Look

From Voll's prototype "Diatherapeuteur" to VEGATEST expert

The inventor of Electroacupuncture was a German physician, Dr. Reinhold Voll, who discovered that the high energy potential of acupuncture-point meridians was not only measurable, but could also be influenced. Voll realized that this represented an opportunity for early detection of pathological processes in the body, before irreparable damage was done – because the acupuncture points are linked to organs, nerves, bones and teeth.

So Dr. Voll set out to develop a device with which to locate and measure acupuncture points. His breakthrough came in the 1950s, in the form of the "Diatherapeuteur", a prototype diagnostic and therapeutic system that measured the electrical resistance at acupuncture points. Electroacupuncture had been invented! All currently known Electroacupuncture techniques date back to this first prototype.

Yet as sensational as the invention of the Diatherapeuteur may have been, it is no-

wadays hard to imagine how much effort it took Dr. Voll, back then, to set up and perform a single measurement with this first EAP device: he had to locate about 500 acupuncture points – plus, of course, measuring and recording the readings was at that time not aided by any computer.

So, a group of Electroacupuncture practitioners got together to improve the method. The tests needed to be made simpler and faster for use in everyday practice. This team developed the "Bioelectronic Functional Diagnostics" (BFD) system, which was very similar to Voll's Electroacupuncture (EAV). The number of acupuncture points to be located was reduced to about 100 (the terminal points and a few other points on hands and feet). This significant advance greatly expanded the method's range of application. In addition, silver electrodes replaced the former brass electrodes.

Finally, in 1978, the engineers at VEGA Medizin in Schiltach, Germany, working together with Dr. Schimmel, developed the VEGATEST method, thus once more revolutionizing the BFD procedure: just a single reproducible acupuncture point was

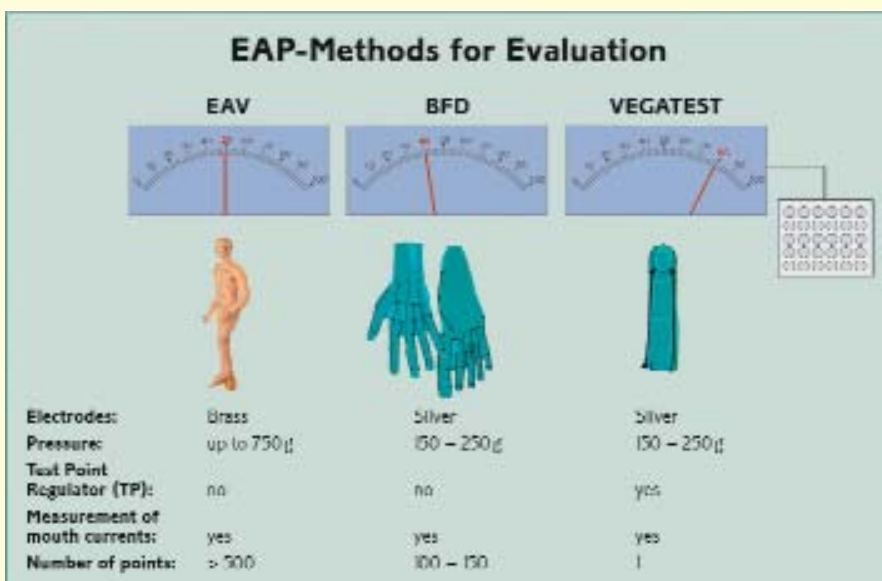
PETER-GEORG RADEMACHER



Is a naturopath through and through. He has had his own practice in Tenigen, Germany since 1975 and has been active and successful in various medical areas in the course of his career. He is familiar with and appreciates the possibilities of naturopathy as well as "orthodox" medicine. It is his goal to intelligently combine orthodox and alternative knowledge for the good of the patient. He is substantially involved in the development of the VEGATEST method. Peter-Georg Rademacher has always shared his knowledge: he is author of the VEGATEST manuals Handbook of the VEGATEST Method and On the Trail of Bio-Logic, as well as numerous publications in the areas of VEGATEST and functional medicine.

now needed to perform an EAP test. This allowed the tester to concentrate in peace on the procedure. Over the years, the VEGA team has continued to perfect the VEGATEST method in collaboration with physicians and therapists.

Yet another possible application for Electroacupuncture is the Remedy Test, whose discovery also goes back to Dr. Voll, who discovered it quite by accident while showing his Diatherapeuteur to some colleagues. Dr. Voll (who measured himself nearly every day and thus knew his "healthy and sickly points") had intended to demonstrate, once more, the functioning of his Electroacupuncture device. Yet oddly enough, he was not able, this time, to make his "sickly" points visible with the measuring device. Dr. Voll was puzzled – until it occurred to him that he had, in his pocket, the necessary remedies for his treatment. He removed the medications from his pocket – and the pathological readings became measurable again. Dr. Voll realized the significance of this incident: the deliberate introduction of a "compensating remedy" into the measurement loop could



Diagnostic EAP Methods

regulate pathological readings. This also meant that it was possible to test out, for each patient, the most compatible personalized remedy to compensate disturbances, because Dr. Voll was familiar with the homeopathic concept according to which a remedy acts through its vibrations even before it is taken.

In the current version of the Remedy Test, patients don't even have to hold the remedy in their hand. Modern Electroacupuncture with the VEGATEST expert uses a great many prerecorded test substances in its measurements. In just a few minutes, hundreds of remedies or allergens can be tested for their effects on the patient's organism. This means that, unlike Dr. Voll's awkward Diatherapuncteur, the VEGATEST Method engages in a direct dialogue with the patient's organism, which responds with a clear "Yes" or "No" to the test substance. By the way, the test substances are not just homeopathics or phytotherapeutics; chemical preparations of the pharmaceutical industry can also be tested in this manner for effectiveness and tolerability.

The measurement process creates a measurement loop, in which the patient holds a passive electrode in one hand while the therapist applies a so-called "active electrode" to the acupuncture point.

This way, the organism's response to the test information can be queried at a skin measurement point with a reproducible reading. Since many measurements are performed at a single point, it was necessary to reduce the measurement pressure as much as possible. The most important implement for this is the VEGATEST expert's built-in Test Point Adjuster (TPA), which expands the measurement scale without



VEGATEST – detecting disease causes

increasing pressure, thus making measurement results much easier to read.

The VEGATEST expert is now able to detect organ weaknesses, pesticide and insecticide burdens, deficiency symptoms, parasite infestation, heavy-metal intoxication and food sensitivities. In addition, connections between physical and psychological symptoms can also be diagnosed. Dr. Reinhold Voll would no doubt gape in astonishment if he could see what a great career his brainchild, Electroacupuncture, has made for itself.

A Look at the Possibilities

A pantry full of vibration information

Since the invention of Electroacupuncture by the German physician Dr. Reinhold Voll, the Schiltach firm of VEGA Medizin, one of the leading manufacturers of medical devices, has pressed forward with ongoing development of this testing method. Ever since the company was founded 25 years ago, VEGA Medizin has occupied itself with this diagnostic and therapeutic method. The VEGATEST, which came out in 1979, was the first VEGA Electroacupuncture device, opening up many areas of application with its state-of-the-art technology. VEGA Medizin continued its R&D to come up with a successor device: the compact VEGATEST expert, whose possibilities for single and combination measurements seem well-nigh inexhaustible.

The revolutionary part of the VEGATEST expert was the invention of the VEGA DUPLICATION STORAGE. For years, researchers and users had sought a way to store test substance information on various media, so that they could be called up for testing purposes. Finally, VEGA Medizin succeeded with the VEGATEST expert: a large variety of integrated ampoules allows the user to call up substance vibrations at any times for systematic single and combination measurements. The VEGA DUPLICATION STORAGE is thus a large pantry full of vibration information. With its help, the causes of stresses or diseases can quickly be isolated, step by step, in therapeutic practice. This is made even easier by a large number of Pretest Ampoules that enable one to preselect the most serious problems.





Energy Screening with the VEGATESTexpert

But the VEGATEST expert offers even more functions that have caused a sensation in expert circles: diagnosis and therapy with the VEGATEST expert begins with Energy Screening, an overview measurement that, within minutes, provides information about the patient's energetic condition, regulatory capability and possible foci and disturbance fields in the body. In this process, seven body segments are measured in two measurement cycles; disturbance fields and energy blocks are located and the organism's regulatory capability is checked.

Another VEGATEST expert specialty is buccal current measurement: using a special dental measurement stylus, the voltage potential of galvanic currents is ascertained. These currents can trigger disturbances in the organs associated with the teeth. Patients with markedly elevated buccal currents – and daily practice has shown that there are many such – are urged by their therapists to undergo a dental examination, because buccal currents almost always indicate an clear burden and, if left untreated, have a negative effect on the patient's health and regulatory capability.

The VEGATESTing (technical jargon) diagnostic method can not only detect organ stresses, intoxications and fungal or parasitic infestations, it can also perform a rapid and comprehensive allergy test. Even the connections between Physis and Psyche (since verified by psychoneuroimmunology) can be tested out in a targeted manner. VEGATESTing distinguishes between basic testing and filtering, which is understood as combination testing of information from various sources. Filtering opens up numerous possibilities for verifying test results, detecting disease causes

and ascertaining the most effective prescription for treatment.

When the diagnostic phase is finished, the VEGATEST expert is ready with two integrated therapy options. First, there is Systems Information Therapy using the SI CARD, which is based on established classical medicine treatment using magnetic fields. The SI CARD (actually just credit-card-sized pasteboard) is equipped with a magstripe, which is the carrier for therapy information derived from VEGATEST expert measurements. Simply put, the information is either homeopathic vibration or the patient's intrinsic energy. The SI CARD is in-

serted directly into the device and recorded with the information. The patient then wears this card as a therapy adjunct, either taping it to the skin or wearing it on a string around the neck.

We would like to state explicitly at this point that the therapeutic use of the SI CARD does not replace the administration of remedies, but is instead a therapeutic adjunct.

The VEGATEST expert's second therapeutic option is Pulse-Current Therapy. It is a logical extension of classical acupuncture's well-known theory of energetic equilibrium in the organism – better known as "health". If the organism is not in balance, then its energetic metabolism will be off. This can be remedied by supplying energy or, conversely, draining off excess energy (i.e. "letting off steam"). Traditional acupuncture needles, with which energy is taken up or given off, are here replaced by low-frequency current pulses that restore energetic equilibrium in the body. This proven therapy can be used at either 10 or 13 Hz for rolling, cross-hatching, Moxa or suffusion – a veritable flood of possibilities whose application greatly eases many things in daily practice and unbelievably improves patient contact.

A Look Inside the Practice

Successfully treating neurodermitis and asthma

Electroacupuncture with the VEGATEST offers a broad spectrum of diagnostic possibilities. Two examples from my own daily work with the VEGATEST should make clear how profound the insights are into the organism that the VEGATEST allows. The



The SI CARD – effective adjuvant therapy

abovementioned Remedy Test is a central part of it, which gives the VEGATEST an invaluable advantage: you need not depend on conjecture or "trial and error". Instead, you can test precisely for which remedy, which prescription and which therapy will really help your patient. Prescribing the most effective and compatible remedy is one of the primary tasks of the VEGATESTer. The body is literally queried as to whether it responds or not to a certain remedy, and whether it is effective to treat diseases or functional disorders.

The first case that I'd like to present, is that of a nine-year-old boy with severe neurodermitis, which had already been confirmed by clinical finding.

The boy was tormented by strong itching, which he couldn't resist scratching, for he his body was covered with countless scab-covered scratch wounds. With the VEGATEST, I determined that the boy was allergic to milk, nuts and apple juice. The latter was confirmed by the parents, who reported that he always started scratching after having drunk apple juice. The VEGATEST also finds an intestinal dysbiosis.

Next, I tested the boy with the VEGATEST Remedy Test for the most effective and compatible remedy. The following remedies were indicated as good and tolerable: one teaspoon daily of ColibioGen oral, which is utilized for both neurodermitis and intestinal ailments. To stimulate the immune defense, the boy responds especially well to Neythymun oral, which he is to take 15 drops twice daily. His organism also decides on 10 drops twice daily of Phoenix antitox, a remedy used for infections, milk crust, eczema, sepsis and psoriasis.

The boy is to take these medicines regularly for six weeks. I also advise that he consume no dairy products during this time. With respect to milk, yogurt and cheese, the boy adhered to this strictly – after school, however, he continues to buy chocolate bars and others candies, to which he promptly reacts with a new skin eruption.

After the six weeks, the boy comes for a second VEGATEST examination. The Remedy Test indicates Synthera Crustalasin tri (1 tsp. Daily) is suitable; it is used for skin diseases. I also prescribed the intestinal remedy Symbioflor II.

The treatment is effective. After a while, the boy is largely symptom-free and the skin rash has abated considerably.

The second case history is somewhat different: ten years ago, a fire broke out at the patient's workplace. Since then, the now 37-year-old suffers from severe asthma attacks two to three times a week.

An allergy test from a specialist reveals that the man is indeed allergic to birch pollen and dog and cat hair. However, he has no dogs or cats, nor does the birch pollen allergy explain the year-round asthma at-



tacks. Besides the exhausting asthma outbreaks, the patient is subject to a lot of workplace nervous stress.

VEGATESTing confirms the allergies found by the specialist, plus intestinal fungi as well.

The VEGATEST Remedy Test identifies Adclair (1 tablet 3x daily) for the fungal infection, plus a capsule of Mutaflor 100mg for intestinal reconstitution and 2ml 3x daily of Hylak Plus to combat intestinal diseases. To treat the asthma, the VEGATEST identified Phönix Asthmaphön and Meridian Complex Nr. 6 (lungs).

After six weeks, the patient comes in for his second examination in an optimistic mood. His symptoms have markedly improved and he has had just a single asthma attack since the first visit. In this examination, the VEGATEST indicates a number of food allergies: milk, eggs, chocolate and coffee. I therefore proscribe coffee. The Remedy Test results in follow-up therapy with Meridian Complexes 1 (large intestine), 5 (small intestine), 6 (lungs), each 15 drops 3x daily. Added to this is a teaspoon of the aforementioned remedy ColibioGen oral.

This second example shows that the actual disease causes (in this case the food allergies) can initially be masked by other symptoms. These different disease walls, which build up over the years to obscure the actual disease cause, must first be torn down before we can penetrate to the core problem. This sometimes requires a lot of time and patience – but it always pays off, as this example shows. After an additional six weeks, the patient comes to the next examination, overjoyed: he was symptom-free the entire time. Six months have elapsed

since this last examination, and the patient has not had a single asthma attack.

A Look at the Hidden Talents of the VEGATEST expert

Unsuspected possibilities: from biological age to Yin/Yang Test

A well-known phenomenon from the world of personal computers: PC users work with these technological marvels every day, yet most of them are unaware of the multitude of possibilities that these devices have to offer. The ultramodern Electroacupuncture device VEGATEST expert is like that: the most important basics of diagnosis and therapy are easy to learn – and in most cases that's quite enough for daily practice. But the VEGATEST expert can do much more – yet few users make use of the device's full potential.

For example, one of the seldom-used abilities of the VEGATEST expert is the Biological Index. This supplementary test procedure relates to the soft connective tissue (mesenchyme) that Pischinger called the basal system. This mesenchyme, in which all parenchymal cells are embedded, reflects the state of cell metabolism and the immune system, and thus to some extent the biological age of an organ (which can deviate dramatically from its "actual age").

However, biological age is not measured in years; rather, it is divided into 21 biological age levels, in which the first level corresponds to the state of complete health at the time of birth and the last to death.

The VEGATEST expert can determine the patient's biological age levels. In this pro-



VEGATEST – determining a personalized compatible remedy prescription

cedure, the therapist determines the two organs with the lowest and highest age levels. With this information, the physician or therapist can draw conclusions regarding the patient's health potential.

We have already mentioned the Remedy Test in this article. It offers an invaluable advantage to VEGATESTers: they need not depend on conjecture or "trial and error". They can instead test precisely for which prescription and which therapy will really help their patient. Prescribing the most effective and compatible remedy is one of the VEGATEST expert's main tasks. The body is literally "queried" as to whether it responds or not to a certain remedy. It sometimes happens, however, that multiple tested remedies are suitable for treating the same disorder. For this eventuality, the VEGATEST expert has yet another program for selecting the very best remedy from a number of candidates: the Percent Measurement, which determines, quantitatively, to what degree (%) a remedy is suitable. The remedy with the highest percentage is then the most suitable and promises the best healing results. What's more, the Percent Measurement can determine the or-

ganism's functional capacity as a whole or with respect to individual organs. The Percent Test is thus a supplementary measurement that can provide information regarding the quality of the disease processes in the patient's body, and the quality of the remedies to be used in the healing process.

In contrast to this mathematical percentage-tiddling, the Yin/Yang Test is once again unmistakably holistic: in order to live, to be healthy, a body must be capable of reacting effectively to external stimuli. However, it can only do that if the organism as a whole is in a state of harmonious equilibrium. This balance of body, mind and spirit is what we designate as health. This harmonious state is not static, however, but is instead manifested as a constant oscillation between polar opposite pairings that arise from life's rules and regularities. In Chinese culture, this "harmony of opposites" has been symbolized for millennia in the Yin/Yang symbol, which signifies that every condition always contains its opposite: the feminine in the masculine, the inner in the outer, light in darkness, rest in motion.

The VEGATEST expert can detect disturbances in this harmony of opposites. When one side predominates in the Basic Measurement, this reveals a disharmony to the therapist. A Yin polarity indicates a chronic degenerative process, while a Yang polarity indicates an acute or sub-acute disease process. There are a number of therapeutic methods for restoring harmony from disharmony, i.e. rebalancing Yin and Yang.

Physicians and therapists collaborate constantly with VEGA technical staff on the ongoing development of Electroacupuncture – because the potential of this fascinating technology is far from exhausted.

Electroacupuncture - Ahead of its Time?

Prospects for the future

Ever since it was discovered 50 years ago by the German physician Dr. Reinhold Voll, Electroacupuncture has undergone continuous development. 25 years ago, VEGA Medizin adopted this medical technique,



and has been refining and improving it ever since. The results of our efforts are there for all to see: the VEGATEST expert Electroacupuncture device, a fine-materials test procedure, is definitely one of the top developments of the century. With its extensive and ingenious software offering, it stands currently at the head of a long line of developments.

But the history of technology tells us that there is no device that cannot be improved even more; so Electroacupuncture, too, is by no means at the end of its development – in fact, it's probably still closer to the beginning. The full range of applications of the VEGATEST expert has not even come close to being exhausted.

Actually, like the paintings of the first abstract painters, Electroacupuncture is ahead of its time. It most certainly was when Dr. Voll's Diatherapuncteur diagnosis was gaped, at in the 50s, like an occult magical trick, even by specialists. However, the question is whether mankind, 50 years after Dr. Voll's discovery, is now ready for Electroacupuncture, or whether it will be left to future generations to appreciate the true extent of this achievement. Perhaps only then will the full spectrum of application areas, of diagnostic and therapeutic possibilities be recognized.

In this context, it is worthwhile taking a wider look at our health-care system, at our definition of "health" and at day-to-day practice. Conditions in the public health service system are in constant turmoil. The political, economic, technological, social and cultural is changing – not always for the better. The entire "branch" is, more and more, guided by monetary considerations. Medical necessity is no longer the

exclusive decision criterion for treatment; increasingly, it is a matter of cost and financing. Doctors and therapists are forced, for budgetary reasons, to rationalize the operation of their practice and to reduce their "per-patient minutes". But this narrows their view; the whole person no longer stands at the center of treatment, but rather the disease as an isolated phenomenon.

At the same time – triggered, perhaps, by the ever more hectic health-care system – patients seem to be rethinking things: more and more, they are starting to view health as holistic wellbeing. They feel the need to be in harmony with themselves. No longer do they define health as the mere absence of overt disease, or as purely physical functionality. Psychological, social and ecological aspects are factors that co-determine health. More and more people are coming to realize that their health is a valuable possession to be dealt with responsibly. Prevention is one of the key concepts; a health-conscious lifestyle and a balanced diet are the logical consequences of this new view. Health-food stores report a marked increase in customers, and never before have we seen so many people doing after-work sports or jogging, walking, skating.

This new way of thinking increases patients' pressure on doctors to stop looking at the disease phenomenon in isolation, but rather in its holistic reference to the ailing person. They are thus demanding precisely that which has become such a rare commodity with doctors: time. Time for a closer look. Time to apprehend the connections between the person and the disease.

Doctors and therapists are thus caught in a dilemma: they'd like to comply with their patients' wishes and expectations, but they also have to keep in mind the economic aspects of their practice. They cast about desperately for a solution, for a path to the practice of the future that does justice to all demands and needs. Many fail to notice that the solution has existed for a long time.

The VEGATEST method does justice to the changed conditions in the health-care system: it provides, in the least possible time, an undistorted view of the regulatory processes in the patient's body. The physician or therapist can thus save time without succumbing to superficial and rushed symptom alleviation. In this manner, the VEGATEST returns a nice portion of that autonomy and individuality to both patient and therapist that had gone missing in the turmoil of health-care reforms.

Thus the crisis in the health-care system also represents an opportunity – the chance to come up with another picture of disease and health, to make a new holistic point of view our own. Maybe then, the realization that conventional medicine lab results are just one side of the story can gain broad acceptance. Perhaps there will then be no more isolated clinical pictures, but rather a panoramic view of energetic regulatory capability in the functional-medicine sense.

No one can peer into the future, nor can anyone say with certainty what the future career of Electroacupuncture is going to be, what new possibilities the next VEGATEST could open up. However, one prognosis should be allowed: just as VEGATEST represents a successful symbiosis of high-tech achievements and ancient Chinese knowledge, so also will there someday be a successful unification of orthodox and holistic medicine. One thing is certain, however: Electroacupuncture will be a part of this unification.

Bibliography:

Peter-Georg Rademacher / Lars Wesener, Auf der Spur der Bio-Logik – Vom VEGATEST zum VEGA Resonanz-Test, G.A. Ulmer Verlag, Tübingen 1999

Author's address:

Peter-Georg Rademacher
Albrecht-Dürer-Str. 44
D-79331 Teningen GERMANY