



Practitioner Case Studies

Case Study 10 for Michelle Crowe January 2013

The Person & Complaint

56 year old female was diagnosed with breast cancer in left breast 4.5 months ago. She started chemo immediately. She had a choice between having an operation for a lumpectomy or a mastectomy. She choose the lumpectomy and had a full axillary clearance. During the op they found one lymph node was positive. Through advice from her surgeon she then had a mastectomy 2 weeks later. During the op she had the first stage of a reconstruction where they inserted a skin expander to stretch the skin for a permanent implant. She has a serious infection under the expander it was painful 7/10, skin was tight, inflamed, red, sore and hard to touch. She had already taken 2 courses of antibiotics. Her surgeon has told her if it doesn't clear in the next 2 weeks she will loose the expander, and will not be able to have a reconstruction. She has been on chemo so her immune system is compromised. She is also due to start radiotherapy but can't commence until the infection has cleared. Other complaints include reflux, nausea and mild lower back pain.

The Story & Emotions

Client was very distressed about the possibility of losing her reconstructed breast. She was desperate to keep the expander, losing the reconstructed breast would be devastating, she's had already lost her original breast, which she fought to keep. She was also sad that she had lost her hair, hated wearing a wig, embarrassed, hot and uncomfortable. She is a worrier, worries about everything, stories going around in her head, not present at all. Worried about dying from breast cancer too. A friend of hers died of BC recently. Also her mother died 8 months ago she's still feel very sad about losing her.

The Energetic System

Lump in the breast was situated at PC1 created by protecting her heart, her mother died last year sadness would be affecting her heart. Worry will have affected the stomach organ and Netzach also the stomach channel, which runs through the breast and nipple. The infection maybe from her not accepting the implant, anger about having cancer and losing her breast and preventing the area around the expander from healing. There was restricted flow of qi to the area at PC1 which resulted in the cancer in the first place and this needs to be addressed. Yesod would be affected from mothers death and Malkuth from fear of dying. (Pathway Yesod the Malkuth release being scared.)

Treatment – first session

Shen Tao to PC9 client felt sad and angry about getting BC, angry about losing her breast, angry about having to have a reconstruction. Strong pain in PC9 had to shake hand numerous times as she spoke about issues. Shen Tao the same, lots of heat too. Both PC and Shen Tao settled, pain 5/10. Then radiance to breast on area of infection until it settled then resonance. Lots of heat, expander felt very hard to touch. Gevurah to Tippereth while she talked about how disappointed and angry she was with how her breast looked, and the

resentment she felt towards her breast and her body for letting her down. Released closing her heart to her herself and her breast, accept her breast and the new breast as part of her. Heart balanced. Pain now 3/10. After the session she could feel that the breast felt softer and the pain had reduced. Talked about self love and nurture, connecting to her body, calming her mind, the inner smile. End of session.

Treatment – second session

She felt better after the last session. She said she was "no longer rejecting her breast and was now telling her breast she loved it and meant it." The redness and inflammation had reduced down and the breast had remained softer, pain was 2/10. She was due to see the surgeon in 10 days and was feeling positive that the infection was clearing. Resonance on the breast to PC9, the breast felt hot, lots of heat and prickles this cleared as she talked about how she was feeling about breast cancer, felt she was not able to be honest about it with anyone and didn't want to complain. Left side PC9 to PC1 not clearing so then PC9 to Shen Tao, congested she felt some sadness talked about her mum dying last year, then PC1 to PC9 channel cleared. Then opened Yin channels in hand, Heart and Lung. Then Tipperth to Yesod took a while to balance. Talked her through the inner smile. End of session.

Treatment – third session

Feeling lighter emotionally, talking about mums death had really helped. Pain 1/10. Breast much better, no redness, infection nearly gone. Stomach feeling upset. Resonance to breast to Chesed talked about how she needed to express how she was feeling, not bottle it up inside her, also about self nurturing, looking after herself and not giving so much to her family. Resonance to the Stomach organ to ST36, circulates qi in the body, and then Netzach, very tight, talked about worry and how it was affecting her body, both then relaxed. Then opened St12 to St18 just below the breast to clear the channel through the area, and then opened St17 at the nipple, I allowed it to stick to my finger and drew it up through the expander. The client could feel a change in the breast. She said she felt like it was part of her again. I then did withdrawal to the Liver to help clear congestion from the chemo, thick and heavy. End of session.

Treatment - fourth session and how it was resolved.

Felt really good after the session, she went to see the surgeon who was very surprised that the infection had cleared up, she had never had a patient with an infection that bad that had recovered and kept the expander. The pain was gone, redness had disappeared, her breast was softer, less numbness in breast area too. As the breast was good the surgeon was able to continue treatment, she then filled the expander with some more saline to expand the skin to the right cup size ready for the final implant, so the skin felt tight hard and painful again 5/10. Worked directly on the breast for most of the session, both hands cupped the breast, felt hot and painful and incoherent. Felt a major shift and the breast settled, tissue became softer and pain reduced right down to 2/10. Spleen to breast. PC1 to PC9. St12 to St18, St17 as expander had moved the skin. Then resonance to Malkuth for the survival fear, then hod, kidney gate to get qi flowing in the body, then K1's, then Netzach to Hod, double pass to improve energy. Then did resonance to the Liver organ, needs more clearing. End of session.

The client had money issues due to not working, so I suggested that she booked in for a couple of liver cleanses in the clinic and lymph drainage for her arm (with an experienced level 3) to support her body during the chemo, and for when she started radiotherapy to help support her skin. I offered to do a hospital visit when she had the final operation. I also

advised her that it would be good for her to have a few more sessions with a practitioner to help her to really understand and manage some of the reasons she got the breast cancer.