

## **Assessing Coherence Between Psychic Healers and Patients by Simultaneous Monitoring of Physiological Variables**

### **Results:**

Simultaneous EEG and ECG data was recorded from 11 healer-patient pairs during control and treatment periods and from nine pairs of non-healers who acted as controls. EEG coherence was computed between all homologous electrode leads from each pair of subjects and was generally the same between control pairs and healer-patient pairs. However, some of the treatment periods for two nationally known healers were characterized by unusual activity, but this was not consistent between healers or across different treatment sessions for each healer.

Heartbeat data was analyzed for the healer's ECG appearing in the patient's EEG, but no evidence for this effect has been found. Ongoing analysis is continuing for possible evidence of more subtle EEG and ECG effects. One healer agreed to participate in fMRI studies, and data from three such studies has been analyzed. The first two studies indicated that eye movement may have caused substantial artifact, but a third study, which attempted to control for eye movement, showed evidence of increased frontal lobe activation during treatment periods. One of two fMRI runs from a patient treated while in the magnet approximately 30 feet from the healer indicated frontal lobe activation as well, but this was not replicated in a subsequent run or with a second patient. Further fMRI studies with better equipment are planned.

### **Published work:**

Not yet published.

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