

## Appendix H

### *Visit to the Computer Diagnostica Center*

Another of the doctors from the regional hospital had arranged a visit to the computer diagnosis center. It is located in the Markarian Institute, the gynecologic and obstetrical hospital famous in Armenia. The entrance to the hospital is through a small courtyard, at this hour bustling with well-dressed pregnant women accompanied by their mothers, sisters, and friends – their pride of pregnancy visible in the way they carry themselves. The center we have come to visit, however, has nothing to do with women's health as such. I never did find out why it is located here. The center is located on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor, a series of small rooms shared with a homeopath.

The diagnostician is also an alternative healer and a medical doctor. She is a young woman, about 30 years old and her fashionable dress and well manicured nails came as no surprise to me. She began to explain her work enthusiastically. She was trained in Moscow and the diagnostic equipment is from Germany. The computer does the diagnosis – after that, if the patient wants, she will treat him/her as well. She said, “The computer diagnosis is based on the meridians of the body used in Indian and Chinese medicine. It uses the meridians of the body based on Indian – and Chinese medicine. This is a German apparatus, I brought it from Moscow – it was the first one in Yerevan. Now, there are several. In Moscow, every homeopath has one of these in their office. Here, I work with the homeopath as well.”

Continuing, she explained, “I only do diagnostic with this apparatus – no treatment. If a patient wants treatment I use one of the other therapies that I have – all under the heading of *reflexive therapia* -- acupuncture, subjek, and iridi diagnosis and therapy. We do not recognize disease – we work with the whole person only – with the ‘man’. The person when they come must be clean – clean of any drugs. It means they must stop all medicine for several days, if not weeks. It is a problem for diabetics. Sometimes I cannot treat them. Also, the woman must not be menstruating and I cannot be menstruating. It sucks energy from the patient and it is not fair to them. Menstruation is very powerful.” (This was the first time menstruation had come up in any of my conversations with people – healers or otherwise.)

She added, “The patient must believe – otherwise that also disturbs the results. I am starting to use the ‘Mind Power’ treatment as well. It is new in Armenia, but it is coming and will be accepted soon.

“People come here and say, they have liver problems, or gallbladder problems – we do not recognize that. I try to “clean” the body first. The patient must be clean. This apparatus is very sensitive. If the patient is not clean – relaxed with good thoughts – the results are not reliable. I don’t do abortions. I am against this. Twice people pleaded with me and the results were very bad –there was bleeding and hemorrhaging. It was not good. These are powerful processes – I have to be very careful as to how I use them.

She then went on to describe how the computer makes the diagnosis. The procedure is as follows: First, she places electrodes on the patients hands and feet and gives another to the patient to hold. Next, using various diagnostic programs on the computer screen all based on the meridians of body. There is a separate program for each part of the body. Next, using a probe on the palm of one hand first ( to be followed by the other and both feet), she beings to measure energy which come up on the computer screen as a series of numbers. If the numbers are high (e.g. over 44), then the patient has a problem with that particular organ; if low (below 10), it may signify a problem as well. Numbers in the mid-range mean all is well. (see photos)