

Chromo therapy- An Effective Treatment Option or Just a Myth?? Critical Analysis on the Effectiveness of Chromo therapy

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Abstract:

Background: Chromo therapy or commonly color therapy falls under the category of Complementary and Alternative Medicine System (CAMS) of treatment by utilizing electromagnetic radiations with different frequencies which effects human neurohormonal pathways and can be helpful to cure diseases. It is one of the most successful ancient practices which are now gaining interest as a valid and effective science. It is a well established fact that chromo therapy triggers the specific points in our body and relieves various ailments.

Objective: Prevalence of chromo therapy as an alternative and complementary treatment option and to raise awareness of its magnificent effects.

Methodology: People are using chromo therapy as a complementary as well as an alternative treatment option worldwide. In current studies, survey has been conducted in different educational institutions, hospitals, locality and online data. Close ended questionnaire has been distributed to a sample size of 200 individuals (n= 200).

Results: The studies have proved that chromo therapy has tremendous effects on diseases like cancer specially breast cancer, hematoma (red), hepatitis B (combination of various lights), hypertension, neonatal jaundice (blue light), spondylosis, peptic ulcer disease (yellow light), depression and stress, migraine (green light), hyperthyroidism (violet/blue light), alopecia (violet), color blindness (blue/ green) and various skin infections specially cutaneous leishmaniasis (blue and red). Studies have shown that 56.5% individuals of the targeted population, are aware of chromo therapy and 33% of them are in favor that this should prevail as an alternative as well complementary treatment option, due to its minimal or no side effects and its effectiveness.

Conclusion: Current studies concluded that chromo therapy is a natural way to cure various ailments, utilizes worldwide. Further it illustrates that chromo therapy is an effective evolution of science in the field of electromagnetic radiation/energy and it can be very helpful in discovering new dimensions of treatment.

Keywords: chromo therapy, electromagnetic radiations, leishmaniasis, breast cancer, hepatitis B

I. INTRODUCTION

Nature has undisputable effect on body physiology. Colors have potential to cause a dominant effect on our sensations and senses. Man still relies on light and appealed by colors. Dynamic influences of colors on human body are undeniable. It has been healing mankind in the form of chromo therapy from centuries, [1] Chromo therapy/color therapy is a method of treatment that uses the visible spectrum (colors) of electromagnetic radiations (wavelength 7700-3900 AU) and invisible spectrum (infrared and UV), to cure diseases [2]. There are specific sites (centers) in body which absorbs color of varying wavelength and produce effect [3, 4]. When the ratios of the required colors in one or more centers of the body imbalances, it gives rise to the various ailments and when the colors are balanced, diseases are easily cured. In order to overcome the deficiency or to normalize excess of a color, sunlight or artificial lights are used [5, 6]. Each color generates electrical impulses and field of energy that serves as activators of biochemical and hormonal processes. So, the dysfunction of body organs can be treated by chromo therapy [7, 8].

Previous studies has been conducted in this regard has proven the fact that there is a specific color for each organ that affects the human body by producing physiological and/ or psychological effects [9,10] if specific organ is concerned, low energy level (infrared) light i.e. blue and violet, can be employed in the clinical management of migraine which arise due to stress, lack of blood volume (following from pregnancy or at the end of menstruation)

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or low blood pressure.[8,11,12] Also, it attenuates hyperglycemia-induced oxidative stress and enhances the antioxidant protection system[13, 14] also, chromo therapy is found to be beneficial in long term management of stress in patients with stroke by using vibrant colors in their surroundings [11]. Previous analysis has demonstrated the effects of visible range irradiation (*in vitro*) on the enzyme solutions (glucose oxidase, cholesterol oxidase + cholesterol esterase and lipase) and Superoxide Dismutase (SOD) in order to infer the changes produced in the human body after chromo therapy were studied, and researchers found tremendous elevations in these enzymatic activity [9, 15] also, the stimulatory and calming effects of red and blue lights, respectively, cannot be denied specially, in the cases of muscular spasm in calf muscles [16, 17]

As far as psychological effects of colors are concerned, we have come to know that colors are really beneficial for man in every respect. [13] For instance, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder [PTSD] is a severe psychological traumatic condition in which a patient may develop a series of uncontrolled flashbacks. It is believed that this abnormal psychological and abnormal behavior is due to hyperactivity of amygdalus and hippocampus or low responsivity of hippocampus, rostral anterior cingulated cortex. Researchers used a new technique, in order to vanish the painful disturbing memories “Eye Movement & Desentization Reprocessing (EMDR)” accompanied by “Auriculochromotherapy”, which served as a path between external ear and affected brain parts.

This was done by applying yellow laser light at sensitive parts of ear which were identified primarily by palpating the ear lobe. The response was that painful memories disappeared completely after one minute of exposure and at the same time emotions connecting to painful images were also decreased.[23,24] A series of investigations have demonstrated chromo therapy clinically effective and safe in patients with acute respiratory disease, acute tonsillitis, cervical dorsipathies, vegetative dysfunction and in stroke and hypertensive out-patients. It serves as bacteriocidal, anti inflammatory and vegeto-corrective therapy [12, 1, and 16]

Table1. Forms of Colors That Can Be Used Therapeutically

Colors	Wavelength (nm)	Specific color	Psychological implementation	Physiological implementation
Red	644	Sacral region	Vitality, strength, sexuality, will power & alertness[18]	Increases glucose oxidase activity, leading to glucose oxidation, used for diabetes & increases superoxide dismutase, removal of toxins, muscular spasm [15] Anemia, fatigue, impotency, hypotension [18] increased metabolism and appetite [19] increases blood pressure [20]
Orange	610	Sacral region	Happiness, joyousness [21]	Circulation and metabolism, depression, mood swings [20], renal and pulmonary disorders [18] Thyroid, pimples, fistulas, diabetes [20]
Yellow	590	Diaphragm	Intellect and judgment, mental stability and concentration [22]	Used in auriculochromotherapy with Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing-technique [23,24] Rheumatism and arthritis, stress induced disorders, weight loss [19], skin problems and stomach ailments [25,20, 26]
Green	538	Heart	Purity and harmony [21]	Rejuvenation & metabolism [20]
Blue	453.5	Throat	Will power and communication, management of migraine due to psychological factors [20]	Asthma, migraine [12], stress induced-disorders, poisoning treatment, ENT issues [20] appetite suppression [23,26] fatigue [20,27]
Indigo		Brow / forehead	Dignity, honour, self respect and hope [19]	Mental and nervous disorders [28]
violet	400		Spirituality, letting-go and meditation	Increases cholesterol esterase, used for diabetes [18,29] regulates endocrine system [20] migraine [12, 26]

II. DEVELOPMENT OF COLOR INTO COLOR THERAPY

Chromo therapy is a centuries which was started from the Egyptian era [3, 24]. In A.D 980, Ibn Sina (Avicenna) formulated a chart of various colors and brought up the concept of warming and cooling colors [29]. In 6th century BC Orpheus, used vibrational medicine of color and light as a mode of healing [30]. Apuleius revealed the diagnosis of epilepsy with a flickering light. Ptolemy, proposed the concept, that when light entered into eyes, stimulated the specific brain centers and produced a feeling of euphoria (due to the release of ‘feel-good’ hormone-serotonin) in a person[31]. Middle Ages in 1493, Paracelsus reintroduced the color philosophy and used color with music and herbs as a complementary medicine. [25] In 1666 Sir Isaac Newton formed a wheel which of colors that is harmonious together, and other colors that might clash. [32] Johann Wolfgang Goethe observed the principle, called “*polarity and elevation.*” It says that only those colors can be combined together which have no or little difference of polarity. [13] Edwin Burr Babbitt (1803-1881) revealed stimulatory effect of red color on blood, soothing effect of violet/blue to be used as anti inflammatory and yellow/ orange as laxative. [28, 33] Ewald Hering gave opponent colour processes theory, based on two opponent systems which posses’ inhibitory and excitatory responses, controlled by opponent neurons, (neurons which respond to specific wavelength). [34] Dr. Ott (1997) was the first person to evaluate the effect of chromo therapy at the DNA level [14] Dr. Harrah Conforth (1991) applied colour and light to facilitate whole Brain synchronization [35]

Table 2: *Physiological and Psychological Influence of Colors Due To Their Specific Wavelength Targeting Specific Organ*

Therapeutic forms of color	Effects
Exposure to colored lights	Coloured light is concentrated over the affected part of the body[34]
Solarized water and oil	Water/oil filled colored bottles/ glass bottles are exploit colored and allowed to solarized for 4 hours (water) and a week for (oil), to get charged and absorb the vibrational energy of that particular color. This solarized water can be taken orally, and oil can be used as topical preparation.[13,10]
Color tratak	Colored cloth/ paper is placed three feet away from eye level, and the person is adviced to focus on the colored material and feel the intensity of color is penetrating inside.[29,36]
Color breathing	It is a virtual breathing system, You have to think that you are inhaling a particular colour and exhaling another colour which is complement to it[13,37]

Prevalence of chromo therapy as an effective adjunct with conventional medicine and to create awareness regarding its miraculous influences on our body and soul

2.1. Methodology

In order to gain knowledge about the awareness and use of chromo therapy, a generalized closed-ended survey was conducted in various localities and educational institutions of Karachi. In this survey sample size of 200 (n=200) individuals has been selected comprised of three different age groups, 15-25 yr, 26-36 yr and 36 yr onwards were cross-examined. Data was collected within a month of Aug’2014. A specialized questionnaire was designed which includes 16 questions in all focusing on the general perception and believe of people regarding chromo therapy, techniques and medication used , its effectiveness and prevalence. Also, we evaluated the side effects and inconvenience experienced by participants which undergone through chromo therapy.

2.2. Data Analysis

The current research results are formulated and expressed graphically. Parameters like general awareness about the chromo therapy, treated population, effectiveness, side effect profile and its prevalence ratio is expressed by using bar charts (fig.1, 2, 3, 5, 7). Also, pie charts (fig. 4, 6, 8) are used to express the evaluation of the targeted population regarding the diseases which have been treated by chromo therapy and factor involved in its prevalence.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Chromo therapy is the method of treatment that uses the visible spectrum (colors) of electromagnetic radiations (wavelength 7700-3900 AU) and invisible spectrum (infrared and UV), to cure diseases. There are specific sites (centers) in body which absorbs color of varying wavelength and produce effect. In current analysis, out of 200 individuals 56.5% (113/200) people have knowledge about chromo therapy, and 38% individuals have treated by it (fig. 1, fig. 2) and 90% found it very effective while 86% says to some extent it is an effective treatment (fig 3). 11% of the people believed that it is effective against hepatitis, hematoma, hypothyroidism, Alopecia, spondylosis, skin diseases, (14%) various types of cancer, breast cancer, (13%) hypertension. (20%) and (17%) cases were of peptic ulcer disease and neonatal jaundice, respectively (fig 4).

While cross-examination of the collected data, it was observed that chromo therapy has very low side effect profile, only 5% says they experienced side effects (fig 7). Out of treated population, only 2% individuals used medication during chromo therapy (table 3).

People gave quite a positive response regarding the future prevalence. 54% are in favor of chromo therapy should be used as basic treatment option (fig 6), 31% believes that it should be prevalent (fig 7).

Chromo therapy is believed to be a myth but there is complete science behind its tremendous functionality. The current analysis has highlighted its usefulness in various ailments. This therapy is not new it has been going on from many centuries. This was initiated by Egyptians, Native Americans, Greeks, and Indians, and still it is practiced worldwide. A number of researches have been conducted in this regard that brought up new advancement in this field. It has gone through multiple developmental stages.

Doctrine of chromo therapy says it is significantly known fact that there is an electromagnetic field around every object in this world. This electromagnetic field refers to an "Aura" composed of different layers of colors. Each color is associated with a specific energy center in the body, called as "chakras". Chakra (in Sanskrit) means a spinning-wheel, that creates a vacuum in the centre and draws-in, the energy from its surrounding Aura. All organs and limbs of the body have their respective color that corresponds to the surrounding electromagnetic field. There are seven main Chakras or energy centers in the body at different locations. Some people also believed that there is an extended chakra system based on 12 chakras associated with human body, but these lack the power to influence human health, they are said be connected with a person's spirituality.

Seven main chakras are associated with different organs in our body.

- First or Root Chakra, located at the baseline of spine, its master organ is adrenal gland & it is associated with color red.
- Second or Spleen Chakra, located at the pelvic area, gonads are mainly affected by it & it is associated by color orange.
- Third or Solar plexus Chakra, located at abdomen, it affects pancreas & it is associated with color yellow.
- Fourth or Heart Chakra, located at chest, thymus is its master gland & it is associated with color green
- Fifth or Throat Chakra, thyroid is the master gland & it is associated with color blue
- Sixth or Brow Chakra, located at brow, mainly affects pineal gland & it is associated with indigo
- Seventh or Crown Chakra, located at the crown area, master gland is pituitary & it is associated with violet

These energy centers or chakras must be balanced. If a person's chakra is thought to be out of balance or weak, the patient is believed to be unhealthy. It is scientifically proven that toxins, negative thoughts, dietary chemicals and environmental factors or any other form of pollutants may aggravate the chakra imbalance. Chromo therapy is a technique that restores the synchronization of these energy centers by application of healing colors to the body.

Firstly, a chromo therapist needs to rectify the imbalanced chakra and its cause, in order to treat the ailment completely. If the cause persist color therapy can mask the symptoms associated with the ailment. Once the disturbed chakra is identified, its associated color application either directly or indirectly, may provide relief. Now, this color will generate electrical impulses and magnetic field of energy which in turns initiates biochemical and hormonal processes within the body. According to the achieved results of current analysis, it is concluded that chromo therapy is an attractive, non-invasive, cost-effective complementary and alternative treatment option with relatively few negative effects. it is found to be very effective against stress, depression, hypertension,

hypothyroidism, hepatitis B, peptic ulcer disease and conditions associated with it, alopecia, spondylosis, hematoma, neonatal jaundice, insomnia, different types of pains even skin infections have also been treated by it, without any noticeable adverse effects!

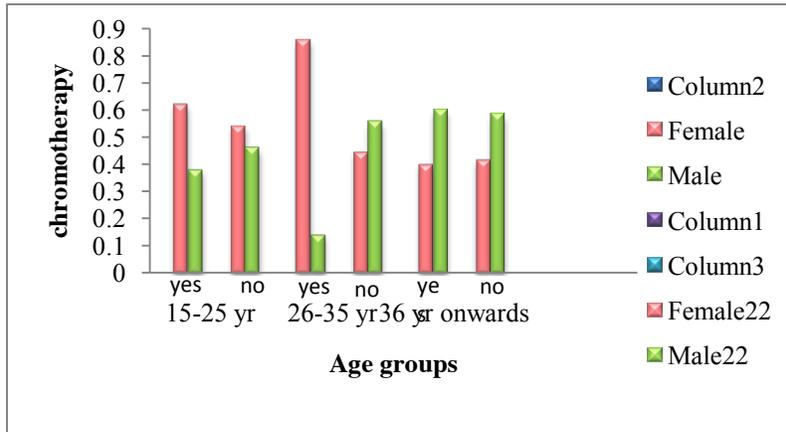


Fig1. General Awareness about Chromo therapy

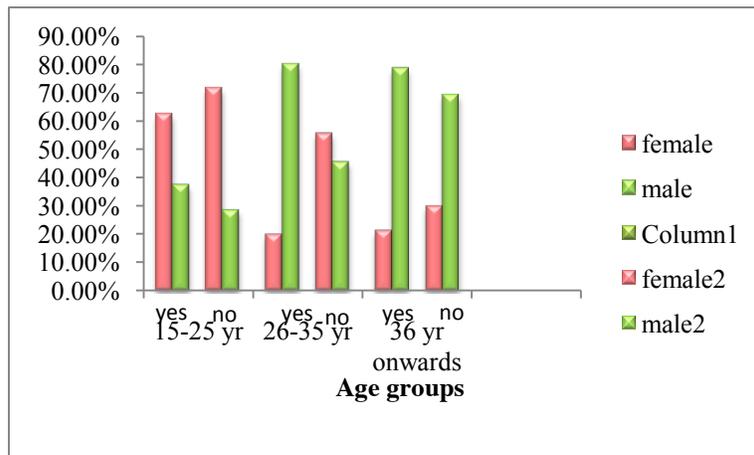


Fig2. Population Treated with Chromo therapy

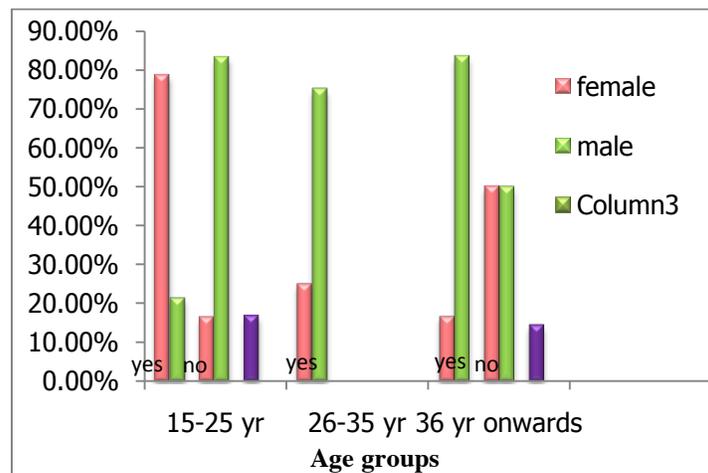


Fig3. Effectiveness of Chromo therapy in Treated population

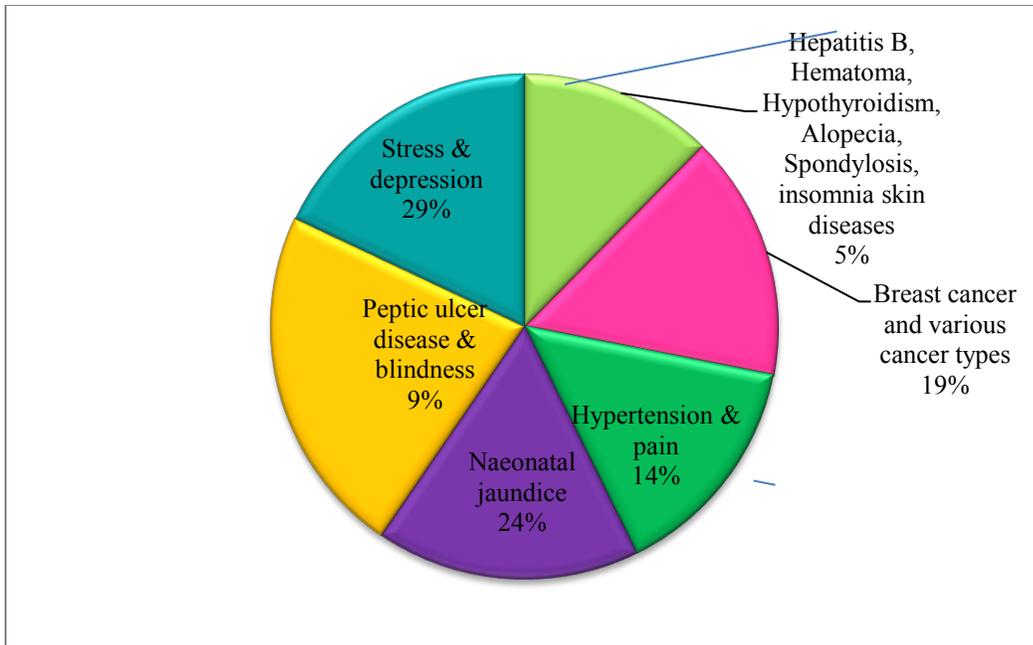


Fig 4. Diseases treated with chromo therapy

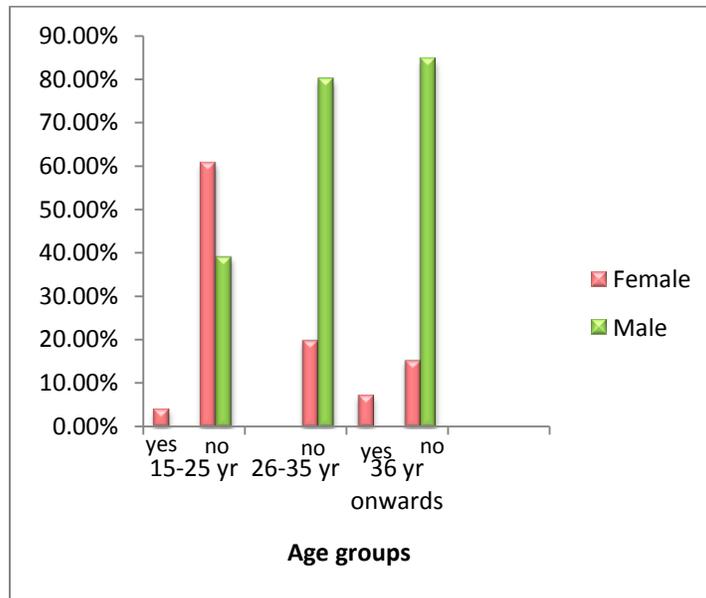


Fig 5. Side Effects

Table 3: Medications used in Chromo therapy

Age group	Female		Male	
	Medication	Disease	Medication	Disease
15-25 yr	pentaprazol	Peptic ulcer disease	-	-
26-35 yr	Synthroid	Hypothyroidism	-	-
36 yr onwards	Analgesics	Pain	Analgesics	Pain

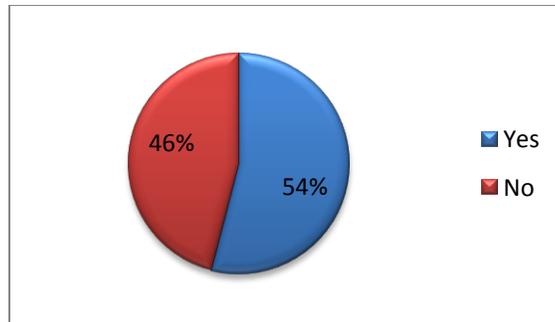


Fig6. Chromo therapy as a basic treatment option

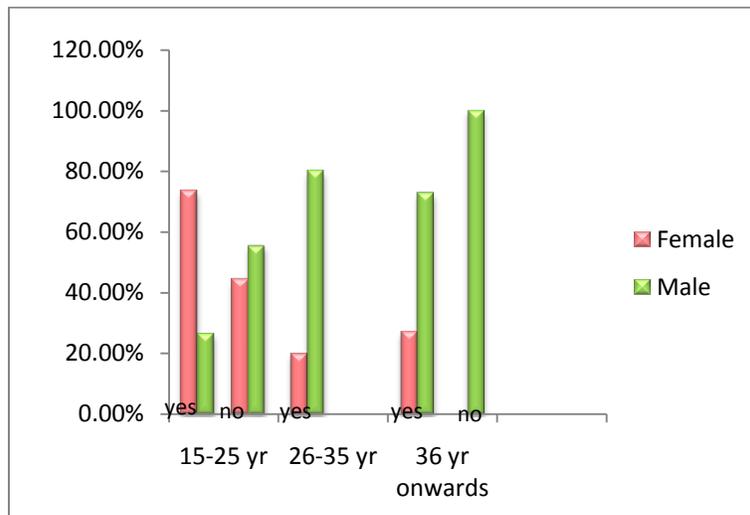


Fig7. prevalence of chromo therapy

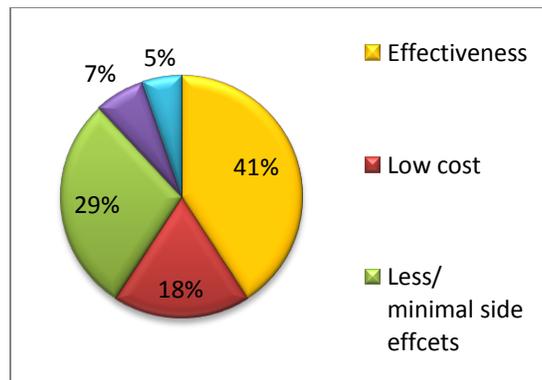


Fig8. Factors Involve In Chromo Therapy Prevalence

IV. CONCLUSION

These convincing facts regarding chromo therapy have made it one of the most effective and potent complementary and alternative treatment options. But the dilemma is, very few of us are aware of its beneficial aspects. This therapy should be recognized and adopted by physicians to support the conventional therapy. Today, homeopathic, ayurvedic, unani remedies, and Chinese medicinal systems are being incorporated in conventional therapy, then why not colors can be used for the treatment. Chromo therapy works on a principle that optimal distribution and maintenance of various colors (energies) within the body is essential for its normal functioning. It is a complete science which involves biophysics, medicine, psychology. These constituting fields of chromo therapy would widen

the scope of this important branch of alternate and complementary therapy and can be used as an adjunct to conventional medicine. Surely, chromo therapy has a promising scope in near future as it has a potential to appear as an emerging technology.

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