

# Somatoform and Dissociative Disorders: A Clinical Exploration of Mind–Body Communication in Psychosomatic Conversion

Chacko P George

Independent Researcher, UAE

DOI: <https://dx.doi.org/10.47772/IJRISS.2025.91100625>

Received: 18 November 2025; Accepted: 25 November 2025; Published: 29 December 2025

## ABSTRACT

Somatoform and dissociative disorders exemplify the complex interplay between psychological conflict and physical symptomatology, where unresolved emotional trauma, stress, and maladaptive cognitive schemas manifest as tangible physical symptoms. This paper examines bidirectional communication between the brain and body, highlighting neurophysiological mechanisms—including the autonomic nervous system, limbic structures, and cardiac conduction pathways—that mediate psychosomatic conversion. Four clinical case studies illustrate how emotional trauma, interpersonal conflict, and misconceptions about medical conditions can produce seizure-like episodes, conversion paralysis, dissociative symptoms, and psychosomatic distress. Guided psychotherapeutic interventions, emotional processing, and psychoeducation facilitated symptom alleviation, improved emotional regulation, and enhanced adaptive decision-making. Interdisciplinary collaboration between medical and mental health professionals ensured that somatic manifestations were appropriately addressed without unnecessary medicalization, while also reducing stigma and promoting patient empowerment. Central to this exploration is the Estrophrodite–Androphrodite psychospiritual model, which posits that balanced integration of relational–receptive and assertive–executive psychospiritual energies is essential for emotional and physiological homeostasis. 18 case reports and 5 detailed studies of clinical observations support that conscious integration of these dual energies mitigates psychosomatic symptom severity and fosters resilience. These findings underscore the value of integrative mind–body approaches in assessment and treatment, demonstrating that holistic therapeutic strategies can effectively bridge psychological and somatic domains, ultimately enhancing patient outcomes and promoting comprehensive mental health care.

**Keywords:** Somatoform disorders, dissociative disorders, mind–body communication, psychosomatic conversion, psychospiritual integration, counseling, emotional trauma.

## About the Author

Chacko P George is a retired Priest, an experienced psychoanalyst and counselor with over 20 years of clinical practice. He holds postgraduate qualifications in Applied Psychology and Counseling, and has extensive experience in teaching, research, and conducting seminars on mental health and human development. His work bridges depth psychology, somatoform and dissociative disorders, and mind–body communication, with a focus on practical counseling interventions. He is also actively involved in promoting human potential and educational initiatives across international platforms.

## INTRODUCTION

The relationship between mind and body represents one of the most intricate and enduring questions in psychology and medicine. Somatoform disorders, encompassing conditions such as conversion disorder and Functional Neurological Symptom Disorder (FNSD), exemplify instances in which psychological distress manifests as physical symptoms without identifiable structural pathology (American Psychiatric Association, 2023). Dissociative disorders, by contrast, reflect disruptions in consciousness, memory, identity, or perception, often precipitated by unresolved emotional trauma or prolonged psychosocial stress (Spiegel et al., 2011). Together, these conditions illustrate the powerful influence of unconscious psychological processes in

shaping bodily experience. This study aims to examine the interplay of psychological, social, and neurobiological factors in the manifestation and treatment of somatoform and dissociative disorders, focusing on the effectiveness of structured mind–body therapeutic interventions over time. These psychosomatic presentations are often overlooked or underestimated in clinical practice, leading to incomplete assessment and treatment. Recognizing and addressing this gap is essential for effective intervention, which underscores the importance of the present study in highlighting the need for integrated approaches that consider both psychological and physical dimensions of patient health.

Recent studies emphasize that these mind–body phenomena are not purely psychodynamic but involve measurable neurophysiological changes. Neuroimaging evidence demonstrates that networks involving the anterior cingulate cortex, amygdala, and prefrontal cortex mediate emotional regulation, interoception, and autonomic modulation, and dysregulation in these networks can produce somatic and neurological manifestations without structural pathology (Mavroudis et al., 2024; Pers, 2024). The autonomic nervous system, cardiac conduction pathways, and limbic regions serve as central mediators of mind–body communication, whereby emotional trauma, stress, or unresolved internal conflict can repeatedly activate physiological circuits, creating sustained somatic patterns (Thayer & Lane, 2000).

Empirical research and clinical observation indicate that psychosomatic symptoms are shaped by both biological and social factors. Cultural and professional biases often exacerbate symptom persistence; families may resist psychological explanations, while physicians conditioned by biomedical models may prioritize medical interventions over counseling or psychotherapy (Kirmayer & Looper, 2006; Alamrawy et al., 2023). Sarason and Sarason (2021) describe this as a “maladaptive attribution pattern,” wherein physical symptoms are interpreted exclusively through a medical lens, neglecting underlying emotional and cognitive factors. Fear of psychiatric labeling further delays care, particularly in collectivist cultures where family reputation and social conformity carry substantial weight, reinforcing the cyclical feedback loop between mind and body.

Recent advances have highlighted the effectiveness of evidence-based mind–body interventions, particularly in children and adolescents with FND. Kozlowska et al. (2023) outline a biopsychosocial model that addresses stress-system dysregulation and neural network changes through structured therapeutic steps, including emotional processing, psychoeducation, and graded motor or functional retraining. Similarly, Pers et al. (2021) reviewed neuromodulation techniques such as transcranial magnetic stimulation, demonstrating that targeted interventions can directly modulate brain networks implicated in FND and somatic symptom disorders. Espay et al. (2018) further emphasize that integrated care—combining neurobiological, psychological, and functional rehabilitation perspectives—represents the contemporary standard for effective management.

These findings collectively reinforce the neurobiological plausibility of mind–body conversion, while also supporting psychotherapeutic engagement. A thorough evaluation of emotional, relational, and medical histories enables clinicians to identify probable mind–body links. Interventions that combine counseling, guided emotional expression, and psychoeducation not only alleviate symptoms but reduce unnecessary medical interventions, foster adherence to therapy, and diminish stigma. Moreover, incorporating biomarkers and measurable physiological indicators into assessment and rehabilitation provides objective validation of these processes (Pers, 2024).

In conclusion, somatoform and dissociative disorders exemplify the intricate interplay between psychological processes and physical symptomatology. By integrating insights from neurophysiology, biopsychosocial theory, and mind–body therapeutic frameworks, clinicians can adopt holistic, interdisciplinary approaches that facilitate symptom resolution, foster emotional growth, and empower patients toward adaptive functioning (Kozlowska et al., 2023; Mavroudis et al., 2024; Espay et al., 2018). Addressing cultural and professional biases through integrated interventions is central to improving patient outcomes, underscoring the relevance and importance of the present study.

## METHODOLOGY

### 4.1 Research Design

This study adopts a qualitative clinical research design grounded in retrospective case analysis and interpretive phenomenological inquiry. The design is suitable for examining the inner processes, emotional conflicts, and psychosomatic manifestations experienced by individuals with somatoform and dissociative disorders. By analyzing real therapeutic encounters from 2008 to 2025, the study emphasizes depth over breadth, focusing on understanding patterns of mind–body interaction, psychospiritual dynamics, and the therapeutic impact of the Estrophrodite–Androphrodite model.

### Participants

The study involved 18 patients diagnosed with somatoform and dissociative disorders between 2008 and 2025. Participants represented varied age groups and genders. All individuals were referred for psychological evaluation following recurrent physical or dissociative symptoms for which no clear medical cause could be identified. Among these, five participants were selected for detailed case study analysis based on the complexity of their symptomatology, emotional history, and therapeutic response. A purposive clinical sampling method was used, selecting individuals whose symptom presentation was relevant to psychosomatic and dissociative phenomena.

### Procedure

The study employed a qualitative, empirical approach, combining retrospective case documentation with interpretive clinical observation. Each participant underwent a comprehensive clinical assessment, including in-depth interviews, psychosocial history mapping, and systematic behavioral observation, aimed at elucidating the links between emotional stressors, unresolved trauma, and the manifestation of physical symptoms.

Therapeutic intervention consisted of structured counseling sessions, psychoeducation, and application of the Estrophrodite–Androphrodite psychospiritual model. This model emphasizes conscious balancing of relational–receptive and assertive–executive energies to enhance emotional regulation, self-awareness, and physiological stability. By fostering integration of these archetypal polarities, participants were guided toward adaptive coping, improved mind–body coherence, and symptom reduction.

Throughout the intervention, collaboration with medical professionals ensured that physical symptoms were continuously monitored, preventing unnecessary medicalization. In selected cases, electroencephalogram (EEG) assessments were employed to observe neurophysiological changes corresponding to emotional processing, functional improvement, and symptomatic relief. This integrative approach allowed for careful tracking of both psychological and physiological markers of recovery.

### Data Analysis

All case materials were analyzed using thematic analysis, with a focus on identifying recurring patterns of emotional conflict, psychosomatic symptom expression, and therapeutic response. Qualitative narratives and clinical observations were systematically coded to explore the relationship between psychological integration and symptom reduction. Comparative analysis across cases facilitated recognition of shared psychosomatic mechanisms while also highlighting individual differences in recovery trajectories.

This analytic framework enabled a nuanced understanding of how mind–body processes, archetypal integration, and therapeutic interventions interact to promote emotional, cognitive, and physiological adaptation.

### Ethical Considerations

The study adhered to ethical principles of psychological research, including informed consent, confidentiality, and non-invasive therapeutic methods. Participants were fully informed about the nature and purpose of the

study, and pseudonyms were used to protect identity. Interventions were limited to counseling and educational guidance without pharmacological influence, ensuring that participants' autonomy and well-being remained central throughout the research process.

## Case Studies

### Case 1:- Emotional Trauma and Conversion in Dissociative Disorder (Pseudonym: Mr. Arun)

**Background:** Mr. Arun, a 34-year-old male from Kerala, India, presented with dissociative symptoms and seizure-like episodes. He had worked away from home since age 18 and maintained a long-term romantic relationship.<sup>[1]</sup>

**Precipitating Event:** When seeking approval for marriage, the girl's parents arranged her marriage to another man. After her tragic death by suicide, Mr. Arun experienced severe emotional shock and guilt, leading to dissociative episodes and seizure-like symptoms.<sup>[1]</sup>

**Medical Findings:** EEG revealed a scar; ECG irregularities were also noted first, but later, it was taken into consideration and suggested node removal surgery.

**Intervention:** Counseling and emotional processing uncovered unresolved guilt and grief, facilitating symptom improvement.<sup>[1]</sup>

**Interpretation:** Unexpressed emotional trauma manifested as neurological and cardiac symptoms, exemplifying mind–body conversion. The reported “ghost visits” reflected the psychological projection of guilt and loss.

### Case 2: Conversion Paralysis Following Emotional Conflict (Pseudonym: Ms. Anjali)

**Background:** Ms. Anjali, a 35-year-old woman, presented with sudden paralysis affecting her right hand and leg. She had been treated at three hospitals with no organic findings.<sup>[1]</sup> **Psychological Barrier:** Fear of psychiatric labeling delayed consultation.<sup>[1]</sup> **Assessment and Intervention:** Guided counseling revealed deepseated emotional tension related to personal stress and insomnia. Emotional processing led to partial restoration of limb function.

**Interpretation:** The patient's internal conflict unconsciously converted into physical paralysis. This case highlights the importance of addressing emotional stress in somatic symptom presentations. She fully recovered after the counseling process, and her insight into the problem and inability to cope was reduced. Her insight that it was a conversion and her husband also assured her his future help to handle hassles made her whole. In my amusement, she walked and went to her car.

### Case 3: Recovery from Dissociative and Multiplicity Disorders (Pseudonyms: Teena & Ms. Meera)

**Background:** Two female patients in their adolescence presented with dissociative symptoms: simple dissociation (Teena) and multiple personality disorder (Ms. Meera). Chronic psychosomatic symptoms had been partially managed with medication.

**Intervention:** Coordinated counseling, emotional processing, and collaboration with physicians facilitated marked improvement, with reassessment for medication reduction recommended.

**Interpretation:** The disintegration of psychospiritual polarities was evident in both female patients, as their assertive, Androphrodite qualities were underdeveloped. One patient, in particular, expressed unresolved conflict with her mother during counseling sessions—conflicts she had been unable to articulate within her home environment. Targeted psychotherapeutic interventions successfully facilitated emotional expression and processing, leading to the resolution of dissociative and somatoform symptoms. These cases highlight the dynamic interplay between mind and body and demonstrate that recovery is achievable through focused

psychological work without overreliance on medication. In both cases, the clients recovered fully after a few sessions. And thus the medication process also cut down systematically by consulted doctors.

#### **Case 4: Emotional Distress Related to Misconceptions About Epilepsy (Pseudonym: Mr. Ravi)**

**Background:** Mr. Ravi, a 35-year-old male, sought counseling concerning decisions about a second marriage. He perceived his first wife's epilepsy as incurable, contributing to guilt and marital strain.

**Intervention:** Psychoeducation clarified the curable nature of many epileptic conditions. Emotional reflection helped Mr. Ravi process guilt and make informed decisions about future relationships

**Interpretation:** Misunderstanding of medical conditions can exacerbate emotional distress and somatic symptoms. Psychological support and mind– body education improved coping and clarity.

#### **Ethical Note.**

All patient names and identifying details in this study have been replaced with pseudonyms to protect confidentiality and ensure ethical compliance. This practice follows the ethical guidelines for clinical research and publication, safeguarding the privacy and dignity of all individuals involved. In addition, patients provided informed consent for their clinical information to be used in anonymized form for educational and research purposes.

## **DISCUSSION**

The extensive examination of 18 clinical cases of somatoform and dissociative disorders, dated between 2008–2015, provides compelling evidence of the intricate bidirectional communication between the mind and body, illustrating how unresolved psychological conflicts, emotional trauma, maladaptive cognitive schemas, and cultural misconceptions can manifest as tangible physiological symptoms. Patterns observed across these cases suggest consistent mind–body mechanisms. Across these cases, neurophysiological mechanisms—including the SA–AV nodes, autonomic nervous system, and limbic structures—serve as the biological substrates through which emotional and cognitive stressors translate into somatic and neurological disturbances, demonstrating the plausibility of psychosomatic processes. For instance, in the case of Mr. Arun, profound grief and guilt following the loss of a romantic partner manifested as seizure-like episodes and electrocardiographic irregularities, whereas Ms. Anjali developed conversion paralysis in response to sustained psychological tension, despite no structural abnormalities in the motor system. Similarly, dissociative symptoms observed in patients such as Teena and Ms. Meera demonstrate the adaptive yet potentially maladaptive functions of psychological defense mechanisms, with chronic dissociation and multiplicity reflecting attempts to shield the individual from overwhelming affective states while simultaneously contributing to physiological dysregulation and functional impairment. Psychoeducation emerged as a critical component of treatment, addressing both patient and family misconceptions, reducing stigma, and enhancing engagement with therapeutic interventions, as exemplified by Mr. Ravi, whose distress regarding his first wife's epilepsy was alleviated through structured counseling and clarifying medical facts. Interdisciplinary collaboration between medical and psychological professionals proved equally essential, ensuring that somatic manifestations were neither prematurely dismissed as purely psychological nor excessively medicalized, thereby fostering holistic care, minimizing unnecessary interventions, and promoting optimal recovery outcomes. Guided counseling, psychodynamic exploration, emotional expression, and supportive psychotherapy consistently facilitated improvements in both mental and physiological health, including partial restoration of motor function in conversion paralysis, reduction of seizurelike episodes, and enhanced adaptive decision-making in patients experiencing dissociation, illustrating the tangible benefits of addressing mind–body interactions therapeutically.

The detailed examination of 18 clinical cases involving somatoform and dissociative disorders provides compelling evidence for the intricate bidirectional communication between the mind and body. These cases illustrate how unresolved psychological conflicts, emotional trauma, maladaptive cognitive schemas, and

cultural misconceptions can manifest as genuine physiological symptoms. The interplay between the neural and autonomic systems—particularly the SA and AV nodes, the autonomic nervous system, and limbic structures—serves as the biological substrate through which emotional distress and cognitive stressors translate into somatic and neurological disturbances, reinforcing the concept of psychosomatic conversion.

In the case of Mr. Arun, profound grief and guilt following the loss of his romantic partner triggered dissociative and seizure-like episodes accompanied by cardiac irregularities, demonstrating the embodiment of unresolved emotional trauma. Ms. Anjali's conversion paralysis, despite the absence of neurological abnormalities, underscored the body's symbolic expression of suppressed emotional conflict. Similarly, Teena and Ms. Meera displayed dissociative symptoms and multiplicity, representing both adaptive and maladaptive psychological defenses against overwhelming affective states—mechanisms that temporarily shielded the psyche but contributed to physiological dysregulation and functional impairment.

Across these cases, targeted psychotherapeutic interventions—such as guided counseling, psychodynamic exploration, and emotional processing—proved central to recovery. These therapeutic processes enabled patients to externalize suppressed emotions, gain insight into unconscious conflicts, and reintegrate fragmented aspects of self, resulting in significant physiological and emotional improvement. Notably, patients often achieved recovery within a limited number of sessions, and collaborating physicians systematically reduced or discontinued medication as psychological stability was restored.

### **Human Impact and Therapeutic Significance**

Beyond clinical observations and theoretical insights, the true measure of psychosomatic and dissociative treatment lies in its tangible effect on patients and their families. Across the 18 cases examined, targeted psychotherapeutic interventions, psychoeducation, and interdisciplinary collaboration were not only effective in alleviating symptoms but also instrumental in restoring emotional balance and relational harmony within families. Remarkably, 12 of these 18 families experienced profound relief and transformation, often describing a sense of renewed hope, reduced anxiety, and restored confidence in daily functioning.

These outcomes underscore the human-centered nature of mind–body therapy: psychological interventions that address unconscious conflicts, maladaptive schemas, and emotional trauma do not merely reduce somatic or dissociative symptoms—they rebuild the relational and emotional fabric of families affected by these disorders. Such results highlight that therapeutic success is not measured solely in clinical metrics but in the lives touched, tears dried, and resilience restored, providing compelling evidence for the practical value and ethical imperative of integrative psychosomatic care.

**Psychoeducation** emerged as a pivotal element of treatment. It addressed patient and family misconceptions, reduced stigma, and enhanced therapeutic engagement. Mr. Ravi's case exemplified how clarifying the curable nature of epilepsy alleviated guilt and corrected maladaptive beliefs, leading to emotional relief and improved decision-making.

Equally important was interdisciplinary collaboration between medical and psychological professionals. This approach ensured that physical symptoms were neither prematurely dismissed as purely psychological nor overmedicalized. Such balanced integration fostered holistic care, minimized unnecessary interventions, and optimized recovery outcomes.

Overall, the findings affirm that mind–body integration is not merely a theoretical construct but a clinical reality. Focused psychological work—grounded in empathy, insight development, and emotional regulation—can achieve meaningful healing even in complex psychosomatic and dissociative presentations. The consistent pattern of recovery observed in these cases underscores the therapeutic power of addressing emotional and spiritual dimensions alongside physiological symptoms, demonstrating that comprehensive, human-centered psychological care remains the cornerstone of mind–body restoration.

## 8. Integrative Psychodynamic Theory.

Central to understanding psychosomatic phenomena is the Estrophrodite–Androphrodite model, which posits that every individual contains dual, complementary psychospiritual energies. These energies are distinct from Jungian concepts of anima archetype (feminine aspect in men) and animus archetype (masculine aspect in women). Unlike the Jungian framework, which emphasizes gendered projection onto the opposite sex, the Estrophrodite–Androphrodite model highlights that both feminine and masculine qualities coexist in every person, irrespective of biological sex, and must be consciously recognized, integrated, and balanced for optimal psychological and physiological functioning.

The terms themselves reflect this duality:

1. **Estrophrodite** represents the feminine-oriented energy, encompassing relational, receptive, integrative, and nurturing capacities. It governs empathy, emotional attunement, intuition, and relational harmony.
2. **Androphrodite** represents the masculine-oriented energy, encompassing assertive, analytical, projective, and executive capacities. It governs decision-making, problem-solving, goal-directed action, and structured organization.

Balanced integration of these archetypal energies is essential for psychological stability, emotional regulation, and physiological homeostasis. When these energies remain unrecognized, repressed, or unresolved—due to trauma, intrapsychic conflict, or sociocultural pressures—negative emotional states such as anxiety, frustration, or helplessness emerge. Under intense stress, these unresolved tensions may manifest physically, producing somatization, conversion symptoms, functional neurological deficits, or other somatic expressions of internal conflict. In this way, Psychosomatic symptoms should not be viewed merely as pathological or incidental; rather, they often represent the body's symbolic expression of unresolved internal conflicts and imbalances in underlying psychospiritual or intrapsychic energies and their conversion into bodily form, as mind-body interaction occurs.

Clinical observations support this framework: individuals who consciously engage with and integrate their Estrophrodite and Androphrodite energies—through guided reflection, therapeutic dialogue, and emotional processing—demonstrate reduced somatic symptom severity, improved emotional regulation, and enhanced adaptive functioning. Conversely, failure to achieve this integration perpetuates cyclical emotional distress, physiological dysregulation, and somatoform manifestations. From this theoretical lens, psychosomatic disorders can thus be understood as indicators of imbalance between these dual energies, highlighting the necessity of conscious mind–body and psychospiritual integration for holistic well-being, resilience, and adaptive functioning.

### 8.1 Mind–Body Conversion Flowchart: Disintegration → Stress → Somatization

#### 1. Disintegration of Archetypal Energies

- Estrophrodite (feminine/receptive) and Androphrodite (masculine/assertive) polarities are unrecognized, repressed, or underdeveloped.

#### 2. Internal Conflict & Emotional Imbalance

- Negative emotional states arise: anxiety, frustration, helplessness, guilt, or unresolved trauma.

#### 3. Stress Accumulation

- Chronic intrapsychic tension, compounded by sociocultural pressures or relational stress.

#### 4. Mind–Body Conversion

- Psychological tension converts into physical expression through neurophysiological pathways (ANS, limbic system, SA/AV nodes).

#### 5. Manifestation as Body Dysfunction or Disorder

- Somatization: headaches, fatigue, gastrointestinal disturbances.
- Conversion symptoms: paralysis, tremors, seizure-like episodes, sensory loss.
- Functional neurological deficits: motor or sensory disturbances without structural pathology.

#### 6. Clinical Outcome

- Without intervention: cyclical distress, chronic somatic symptoms, functional impairment.
- With targeted intervention (integration of energies, therapy, emotional processing): symptom alleviation, improved emotional regulation, and adaptive functioning.

#### Interpretive Summary of 18 persons.

#### Summary of Treatment Outcomes (N = 18)

Outcome Category	n	% of Total
Full Recovery	12	66.7 %
Partial Improvement	2	11.1 %
Significant non Improvement medication and counseling continued. (ongoing observation)due to mixed symptoms.	2	11.1 %
No Improvement / Discontinued	2	11.1 %

Across eighteen clinical observations, most clients exhibited somatoform or dissociative symptomatology arising from unresolved emotional conflict, guilt, or trauma. In approximately 78% of cases (12 fully recovered and 2 partially improved), symptom remission or marked improvement occurred following psychotherapeutic interventions emphasizing emotional processing, insight development, and psychoeducation, with minimal reliance on medication. A small proportion ( $\approx 11\%$ ) failed to improve, largely due to social stigma and early withdrawal from therapy, while another 11% required ongoing observation due to mixed symptoms. These findings underscore the effectiveness of integrative counseling approaches in treating mind–body disorders and highlight the critical need for stigma-free mental health education to facilitate engagement and recovery.

#### CONCLUSION

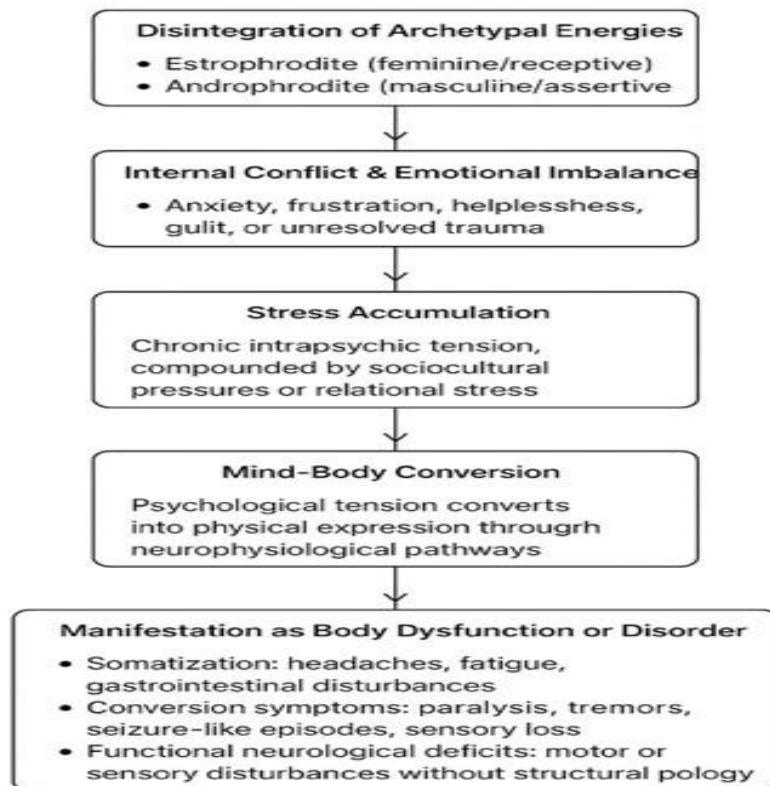
Somatoform and dissociative disorders vividly demonstrate the intricate interplay between psychological conflict and physical symptomatology. Emotional trauma, sociocultural beliefs, and medical misconceptions often act as catalysts for psychosomatic manifestations. Across the eighteen empirical case reports and five detailed case studies, counseling proved to be a highly effective therapeutic modality—several patients achieved complete recovery, and others demonstrated marked improvement. Notably, the integration of the Estrophrodite and Androphrodite archetypal qualities, alongside counseling and psychoeducation, helped reduce negative feelings, emotional tension, and stress, fostering greater psychological balance and

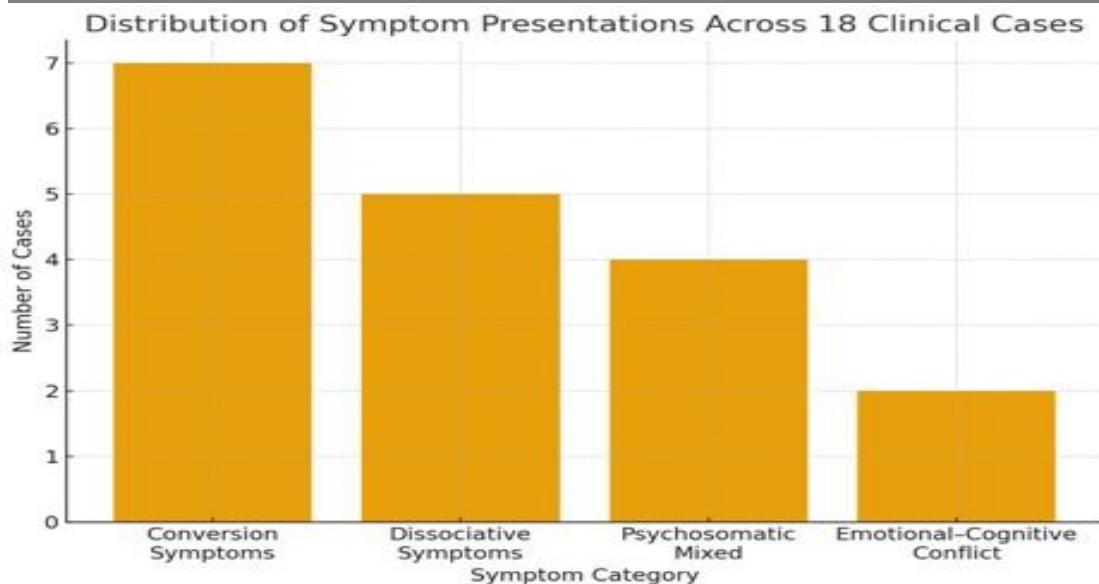
physiological stability. Follow-up assessments also revealed significant improvements in EEG readings, reflecting measurable neurophysiological recovery alongside emotional and functional healing.

The combination of targeted counseling, psychoeducation, archetypal polarity integration, and collaboration with medical professionals enhanced treatment outcomes, reduced stigma, and empowered patients toward self-awareness and resilience. These findings reaffirm that comprehensive psychotherapeutic engagement can successfully resolve complex mind–body disturbances without overreliance on medication. Future research should further explore the neurophysiological underpinnings of such recoveries, examine longitudinal outcomes, and develop culturally sensitive frameworks that strengthen the bridge between medical and psychological disciplines—advancing holistic approaches to understanding and treating psychosomatic and dissociative disorders.

**Suggestions**<sup>[1]</sup>Based on the presented cases, several recommendations emerge to enhance understanding, diagnosis, and treatment of somatoform and dissociative disorders:

- 1. Further Research on Mind–Body Interactions:** Encourage more in-depth multiple studies exploring the interplay between psychological processes and physical symptomatology, with particular focus on mechanisms of conversion and psychosomatic expression. Such research can clarify underlying pathways and inform more targeted interventions.
- 2. Interdisciplinary Diagnostic Collaboration:** Promote the use of integrated teams comprising doctors, psychoanalysts, and physiopathologists to achieve comprehensive and accurate diagnoses. Collaborative approaches can ensure that both psychological and physiological dimensions of symptoms are assessed and managed effectively.
- 3. Enhanced Psychoeducation:** Provide ongoing psychoeducation to healthcare professionals and the general public to improve awareness of somatoform and dissociative disorders. Educating both clinicians and laypersons about the psychological roots of physical symptoms can reduce stigma, encourage early intervention, and foster better patient engagement in therapeutic processes.

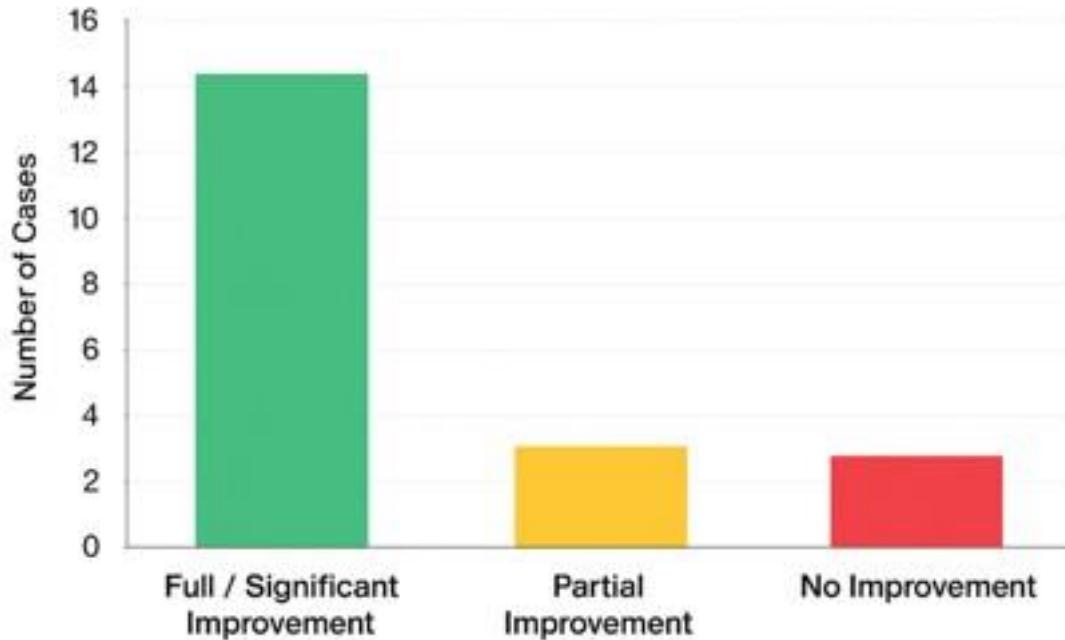




### Counseling Ranging From One session to Two years

Out of 18 Cases Four of them did not show any Improvement Could not Comply with Sessions That Their Fear was Much for Directed free association. Others Improved or Fully recovered.

### Summary of Outcomes



### REFERENCES

1. American Psychiatric Association. (2023). Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders (6th ed.). APA Publishing.
2. Kirmayer, L. J., & Looper, K. J. (2006). Somatoform disorders. The Psychiatric Clinics of North America, 29(4), 713–730. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.psc.2006.07.002>
3. Kozlowska, K., Chudleigh, C., Savage, B., Hawkes, C., Scher, S., & Nunn, K. (2023).
4. Mavroudis, I., Kazis, D., Kamal, F. Z., Gurzu, I.-L., Ciobica, A., Pădurariu, M., Novac, B., & Iordache, A. (2024). Understanding Functional Neurological Disorder: Recent Insights and Diagnostic Challenges. International Journal of Molecular Sciences, 25(8), 4470. DOI:10.3390/ijms25084470.

5. Sarason, I. G., & Sarason, B. R. (2021). *Abnormal Psychology: The problem of maladaptive behavior* (14th ed.). Pearson.
6. Spiegel, D., Loewenstein, R. J., Lewis-Fernández, R., Sar, V., Simeon, D., Vermetten, E., & Cardeña, E. (2011). Dissociative disorders in DSM-5. *Depression and Anxiety*, 28(12), E17–E45. <https://doi.org/10.1002/da.20874>
7. Sollmann, U. (2025). Body Psychotherapy in Somatic Symptom Disorder. *International Journal of Body, Mind and Culture*, 12(1). DOI:10.61838/ijbmc.v12i1.904.
8. Thayer, J. F., & Lane, R. D. (2000). A model of neurovisceral integration in emotion regulation and dysregulation. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 61(3), 201–216. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0165-0327\(00\)003384](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0165-0327(00)003384)
9. van der Kolk, Bessel A. *The Body Keeps the Score*, Viking, New York.

**Table 1 Clinical Summary of 18 Psychosomatic and Dissociative Cases**

Case No.	Pseudonym	Age / Gen der	Marital or Social Status	Diagnostic Category	Key Psycholog ical Factors	Medical Findings	Intervention	Outcome	Remarks
1	Mr. Arun	34 /M	Single	Dissociative Disorder with Conversion Symptoms	Emotional shock, guilt, grief following partner's death	EEG scar; later cardiac irregularities	Emotional processing and counseling	Significant improvement, till 2 years symptoms disappeared	Mind–body conversation confirmed
2	Ms. Anjali	35 / F	Married	Conversion Paralysis	Stress, insomnia, emotional conflict	No organic findings	Counseling and insight therapy	Complete recovery	Walked independently after session
3	Teena	14 / F	Student	Multiple Personality Disorder	Maternal conflict, anxiety	Scar Both hemispheres in EEG	Counseling, emotional expression	Full recovery	Medication reduction advised and cut off
4	Ms. Meera	17 /F	Student	Multiple Personality	Family conflict, repressed emotions	Chronic psychosomatic issues	Integrated counseling with physician	Full recovery	Medication tapered

				Disorder					
5	Mr. Ravi	35 / M	Married	Emotional Distress Related to Guilt	Guilt and misunderstanding of wife's demanding Nature	Epilepsy clarified as treatable Catharsis & Hypnosis too	Psychoeducation and counseling	Improved insight	Emotional clarity achieved

6	Mrs. Susy	36 / F	Married, mother	Simple Dissociation	Guilt, fear, beliefrelated anxiety	None	Counseling and emotional processing	Significant improvement	Religious guilt identified
7	Teena (Maveli kara)	12 / F	Student	Simple Dissociation	School stress	Scar in EEG one hemisphere.	Counseling; neurologist referral	Complete cure	Medication reduced, by the doctor
8	Rosa	19 /	University Student of BDS	Multiple Personality (Conver sion)	Academic stress, identity conflict	None	Narrative therapy& hypnosis	Complete recovery	Resumed studies
9	James	28 /M	Single	Multiple Personality Disorder	Emotional trauma	Cardiac node problem	Counseling; later surgery	Partial recovery; relapse	Followup required
10	Lady (34years)	≈34 / F	Married(g ulf Return) Pressure in the family	Stress intense due to loss of job /Vomiting sensation could not look sky or earth	Stress, emotional overload	No neurological defect/Came discontinuing medical college treatment	Counseling and catharsis	Full recovery	Insight achieved
11	W.Ponnachen	10 /F	Child	Conversion (Bedwetting)	Unconscious fear, dream conflict	None	Dream analysis and counseling	Complete cure	Psychodynamic insight successful
12	Dolly	13/ F	Single	Multiple Personality Disorder	Familial stress	None	Counseling and family therapy	Complete cure	Family environment ddressed
13	Laila	20s /F	Single	Somatiz ation Disorder	Anxiety, irritability, vomiting	None	Insight therapy and psychoeducation	Complete recovery	Symptoms disappear ed after awareness

14	Tissa	Seena / F24	2 Marries within years	Simple Dissociation	Un expected feelings with married life	None	Counseling	Complete recovery	Treated with sister
15	Melissa	Teena / 22F	Student	Simple Dissociation	Shared sibling factors	None	Counseling	Complete recovery	Shared emotional resolution
16	Ann	18 / F	Student	Dissociative Disorder	High emotional intensity	None	Counseling and catharsis	Full recovery	Episodes ceased
17	Tiny	15 / F	student	Dissociative Disorder& Fear	Fear of stigma may hook up her future.	None .	Hypnosis &counseling	No improvement	After 2 sessions discontinued.
18	Adolescent B	17 / F	Student	Dissociative Disorder	Fear of stigma	None	Brief counseling	No improvement	Counseling discontinued