

Heuristic method: A form of problem-solving based, not on scientific proof but rather on plausible, possible, or creative conclusions to questions that cannot be answered in the context of, or the 'logic' of which lies outside of a currently accepted scientific paradigm; the heuristic process is of use as it may stimulate further research.

(The Free Dictionary: <http://medical-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/heuristic+method>)