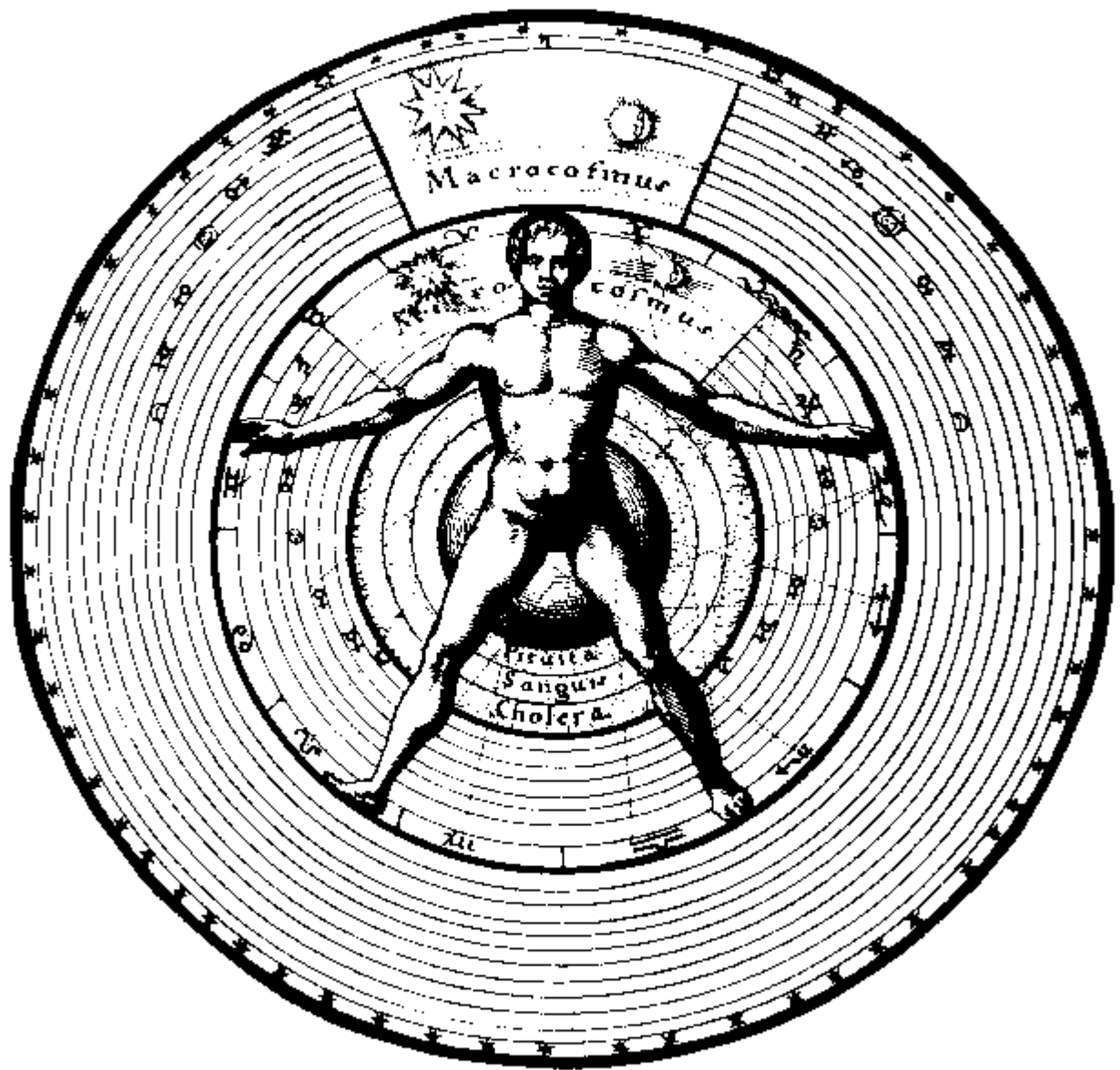


ESSAYS IN MEDICAL ASTROLOGY



Robert C. Jansky



- ♈ Aries, head. ARI
Mar. 21-Apr. 19
- ♉ Taurus, neck. TAU
Apr. 20-May 20
- ♊ Gemini, arms. GEM
May 21-June 21
- ♋ Cancer, breast. CAN
June 22-July 22
- ♌ Leo, heart. LEO
July 23-Aug. 22
- ♍ Virgo, belly. VIR
Aug. 23-Sept. 22
- ♎ Libra, reins. LIB
Sept. 23-Oct. 22
- ♏ Scorpio, secrets. SCO
Oct. 23-Nov. 21
- ♐ Sagittarius, thighs. SGA
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
- ♑ Capricorn, knees. CAP
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
- ♒ Aquarius, legs. AQN
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
- ♓ Pisces, feet. PSC
Feb. 19-Mar. 20

Fundamental Principles of Medical Astrology

PART 2

(ADAPTED FROM A LECTURE GIVEN FOR AQUARIUS WORKSHOPS 9/29/79)

Now anybody who studies anything in the medical field, from the nurses and doctors to the technicians and inhalation therapists, is required to take two basic courses: one in anatomy, and one in physiology. And the signs, the houses and the planets all must be considered as their symbolism relates anatomically and physiologically.

Anatomy is the course that relates to where the organs in the body are located. What do they look like? What color are they? How are they connected to each other? In other words, it's just like a house. How is the house constructed? What is its physical layout?

When we come to physiology, we're not so much concerned with what the organs look like. Now we're concerned with the purpose and function of these organs, or cells, or whatever part we're looking at.

So we're concerned with two things--where it is located, anatomy; and what is its function, physiology. I'll mention both of these in the symbolism as we go along, and you'll see that the symbols of astrology have an anatomical and physiological meaning.

THE SUN

Let's go to the Sun because it is certainly the single most important planet in the chart. In medical astrology the Sun is not so much an indicator of medical problems as it is of how much life force we have in our bodies: of how we are able to fight off and take care of whatever problems we have to face during this

lifetime: of how long a period of recuperation we have to go through in order to regain our health. The Sun represents the basic life force or the vitality that is contained within the body. Some of us have a lot of life force, some of us not quite so much. And when we don't have quite so much, it takes longer to recuperate when we are ill. Other people can hardly stay in bed unless something major comes along and really knocks them down.

The Sun's house position is very much related to the amount of basic life force contained in the body. With a 6th house Sun you might reason that a person would snap back very rapidly, but this is not the case. The cadent houses, particularly the 6th and 12th, are rather weak houses for the Sun to be located in. These people ought to pay more attention to their health than the average person. They don't have quite the recuperative power, the strength to bounce back as fast as other people. So that should be a warning to any of you who have a 6th or 12th house Sun. Be careful. It's important that you care about your health, because if you don't you're more likely than others to have medical problems.

On the other hand, let's take a person who has the Sun angular, particularly in the 1st house. These are people who have that strong ability to bounce back. This doesn't mean they should neglect their health or their nutrition, but if they take reasonably good care of themselves, if they do have a problem they find that it tends to be minimal because they have a lot of life force and tend to bounce back quickly.

The Sun is also symbolic of the heart. The heart is the key to the whole body. If it works well, everything tends to function pretty well; but when the body is diseased, the most vital organ that needs to be protected is the heart, because it's the basic life spark. It keeps the organism going. Once the pump stops, everything stops. The house position of the Sun also indicates how strong and healthy your heart is.

The 6th and 12th houses are the weakest house positions for the Sun; the 1st and 10th the strongest.

THE MOON

The Moon is basically related to the water content of the body. At the time of the Full Moon, for example, the body tends to take on and retain more fluid, which means the fluid pressure of the body gets a little higher. Now all of the body is reasonably flexible except for the skull, isn't it? The skull is rather rigid. That means that at the time of the Full Moon, because there is more fluid in the body, there is more pressure on all of the body tissues. The one area of the body that really reacts to any changes in pressure is the brain and central nervous system. Because the skull cannot expand, there is a bit more pressure on the brain at the time of the Full Moon. That has two implications. First, we all have heard it said on many occasions that some people act rather strangely at the time of the Full Moon. One of the reasons is because the fluid pressure of the body is higher and that puts greater pressure on the brain, and when there is more pressure on the brain we do some screwy things. The second thing that one wants to keep in mind is that whenever surgery is being done, if it is possible to schedule it at all, avoid the day of, the day after, and the day before the Full Moon. The fluid pressure of the body being greater, there is a greater chance of hemorrhaging.

About two years ago there was an article published on this very point in one of the most prestigious medical journals, "The New England Journal of Medicine."

The reference to it is in my book "Modern Medical Astrology." It was a study done by two ear, nose and throat doctors in Florida. They would never have done the study if it hadn't been for their secretary, who was in astrology. She kept a record for two years of all of the tonsillectomies that they did, how many cases there were, and when there was hemorrhaging as a result of the surgeries. They discovered that the greatest number of hemorrhages from tonsillectomies occurred at the time of the Full Moon. So, as I say, try to avoid the Full Moon when planning surgery.

The Moon also represents habits and reflex actions. If you have any planets in very close conjunction to the Moon, you want to be very careful about any habits that reflect the influence of that planet, because once that habit is established it's very hard to break. With Neptune very close to the Moon, there is a "potential indicator" for drug problems, drug dependency, alcoholism or coffee dependency, because alcohol, drugs and coffee are all related to Neptune. I can talk about this from personal experience because I've been trying to stop smoking for a long time and it's a very hard habit for me to break. Logically, one of the reasons is because I have Neptune conjunct the Moon. It's usually the conjunction here; I haven't found it nearly so much with the other aspects.

With other planets conjunct the Moon, look to the symbolism for the particular planet. Mars, for example, is kind of interesting. I will mention that one because Mars conjunct the Moon symbolizes preoccupation with exercise or jogging. Those people can get almost fanatical about it and think everybody ought to do it. Again it's a habit that once formed is difficult to break. I don't mean to put down joggers, but in my opinion I can visualize over their left shoulders the angel of death just waiting to pounce on them as they exercise their hearts far beyond their capacities. I don't work with any aspect of more than plus or minus seven degrees with a natal orb. Things begin to get very subtle when you work beyond seven degrees.

If the Moon is afflicted in the horoscope, if Cancer is the ruler of the 6th or the Moon is in the 6th, you have a person who has a lot of trouble with allergy reactions. And the Moon and Cancer are also symbolic of allergies. I've seen several cases of the Moon in the 6th with Cancer ruling the cusp and, though you would think that the Moon in the sign it rules ought to be pretty good, these are people who seem to have another allergy every time they turn around. I've seen three cases where people who have this configuration are actually "allergic" to the sunshine. They can't go out in the Sun because they break out in a rash.

The Moon also rules the breasts and all body containers. You might not have thought about that before, so let me backstep for a minute. You have all talked to people who have had a number of medical problems in their families and they begin to collect horoscopes saying that they are doing "research" on a particular medical condition. But in order to really study a medical condition astrologically, you need to have a basic understanding of what that condition is. Once you have that understanding you can then relate it to the specific symbolism of astrology. Problems related to the breasts, stomach, bladder, mouth, womb, eye sockets, gall bladder, pericardium (heart sac), meninges (brain sac), or peritoneum (abdominal sac) would be related in some way to the Moon--the Moon ruling body containers.

MERCURY

Mercury rules the respiratory system and the central nervous system. It is also the general ruler of the body's hormonal system. Any problems related to these

systems anatomically or physiologically are connected to Mercury's position in the natal horoscope. It is in the nervous system that the body senses tension. Those with Mercury prominent in their charts are particularly sensitive to tension. And, when they are tense, they are particularly sensitive to headaches, colds, flu and respiratory allergy problems. Many are asthmatics.

When Mercury is afflicted in the chart, these same types of problems seem to show up more frequently. By afflicted, I mean that Mercury is aspected by other planets that are in square, opposition or inconjunct by major aspect, or semi-square or semi-sextile by minor aspect. Semi-squares and semi-sextiles are considered to be afflicted aspects in terms of medical astrology. Incidentally, the name semi-sextile is a misnomer in my opinion. It is not half a sextile (as its name implies), but rather the complement of the inconjunct. The inconjunct is 150° and very much associated with medical problems. The semi-sextile is the complement of that and also a hard aspect—not a soft or so-called good aspect. Semi-sextiles and semi-squares are also considered in the horoscope when there are a lot of minor medical problems.

Mercury also represents worry. We all worry from time to time. The things that people tend to worry mostly about are related to the house where Mercury is found. If they have a 2nd house Mercury, the worries are typically financial or sexual. If it is in the 1st house, they worry about how they look—physical appearance. In the 6th house, they worry about their jobs; 5th, they worry about children; 4th house, they worry about their homes; the 7th house, they worry about partners and spouses, and so on through the horoscope. With Mercury in the 12th house, these are your typical worrywarts—they worry about everything. If they're not worried, they worry because they aren't worried. In the 10th, they worry about what other people think of them, or their professional activity, but it's typically, "If I do something, what are the neighbors going to say, what are my co-workers going to say, what is my family going to say?" Very, very sensitive to what others are going to think, and therefore very timid and hesitant about making any decisions. And of course that can lead to medical problems.

Mercury, I find, also rules the thyroid gland, and it deals with speech and communications. Whenever there is any kind of speech pathology—people who stutter or stammer—you frequently find Mercury related to either the 3rd or the 12th house, or a square to Mercury from a planet in the 3rd or 12th house. I see this time and time again in many horoscopes wherever we see any kind of speech pathology, also in autistic children.

Let me talk further about Mercury for a minute. People who have Mercury direct in their horoscopes are people who learn in an organized manner. These are the facts, and they lead to these conclusions; then we go to another set of facts, and we sort of build a pyramid, and build upon our learning. People who have Mercury retrograde don't want to go through that process. When they go to school they don't take notes, they sit down and sort of immerse themselves in the atmosphere and absorb it like a sponge. They want to go from here to there immediately and not have to go through all the intermediate steps. "Don't confuse me with facts; just tell me what you're telling me."

Of course, we all go through this process during our lives, Mercury going retrograde by progression. Then later on it will go direct again. Or, if it is retrograde when we are born, it will go direct some time in our lives. We notice at that time a complete change in our process of learning. Some kids who have Mercury retrograde in their charts never bring their homework home and sort of learn by absorption or osmosis. Then, at some stage in their lives, they become good students, and somebody will say, "Hey, what happened?" It's because Mercury by

progression went direct. That's why, if you don't do anything else with progressions, it's very important to watch those "key years" when planets that are retrograde in a chart go direct or others go retrograde. These are key years when major changes take place in a person's life. Also, providing we live to a reasonably good old age, Venus is going to change direction by progression.

VENUS

Venus rules the organs of sense--sight, sound, touch, feel and smell. In the natural chart the 1st house rules the physical body, the 3rd house rules the mind, and the 2nd house connects the 3rd house with the 1st house. The thing that connects the physical body and the environment with the mind, which interprets those sensory impressions as they come in, is the nervous system. The nerves carry outside environmental influences through the mechanisms of the body to the brain which interprets them and tells the body how to react. The 2nd house in the natural horoscope is Taurus, and Venus rules Taurus, so you can readily see that Venus is the planet that rules the senses.

MARS

Mars, of course, is the ruler of the 1st natural house; it rules the muscular system and it deals with the way we deal directly with the environment. It also rules the adrenal glands which control the flight syndrome in the body, or how we deal with things when they occur suddenly. It refers to the male reproductive organs generally. It rules bacterial and viral infections, and any medical condition that ends in "-itis" which means "inflammation of." Any kind of -itis that one has medically is directly or indirectly ruled by Mars and what is happening to Mars in the horoscope. It also rules surgical procedures, the surgeon, and the surgeon's knife. The house of surgery in the horoscope is the 8th house, Scorpio is the natural ruler of the 8th house, and the co-ruler of Scorpio is Mars. It also deals with accidents and violence to the physical body, or trauma to the body which causes physical injury.

JUPITER AND SATURN

Jupiter rules the basic growth process of the body and it also rules excesses. It rules the liver and the pancreas, including insulin, so Jupiter is always related in any situation involving the physical condition known as diabetes. It deals with the storage of fat, the arterial blood system and all diseases which are related to excesses. The term hyper-, like hyperthyroidism, is Jupiter related. Whenever there is an excess of--the body produces too much of--it is a Jupiter related disease. Low blood sugar is a Jupiter related disease because the body produces too much insulin. Low blood sugar is really hyperinsulinism--just the opposite of diabetes. Jupiter also rules non-cancerous growths, swelling or any enlargement that occurs in the body.

Saturn is just the opposite. Saturn and Jupiter sort of keep the brakes on each other and keep each other from getting out of control. If we had Jupiter in the horoscope and not Saturn, it would be like trying to drive a car without brakes. Saturn's function is basically protective--remember "form and structure" is Saturn, and so we would expect that the thing that gives the body form and structure would be related to Saturn. In fact, it is. The skin, which keeps the body contents inside and the bacteria out, acts as a barrier between the physical contents of the body and the outside world. Capricorn and Saturn also rule the

skeleton of the body and any bone related diseases. arthritis being a good example. Broken bones would be Saturn related. Usually when we break a bone it is a Mars and Saturn combination. Mars is the traumatic injury and Saturn is the broken bone.

Saturn is also the aging process. And it is related to all diseases that are caused by under function--"hypo." Whenever you see hypo in front of the disease you immediately know it's Saturn related. That's what hypothyroidism is--when the thyroid gland isn't producing enough thyroid. Or hypoinsulinism, which is diabetes. Again, you would expect diabetes to be related to Saturn. It also deals with loss of function and it deals with any kind of stones that are produced in the body. Gallstones and kidney stones are all related to Saturn. Calcification, stiffening or rigidity of the joints would all be Saturn related. It also relates to constipation, or the slowing down or diminishing of any body process. And it rules the cells of the body because the cell is the basic structure upon which the whole body is built.

URANUS

Uranus rules the autonomic nervous system. And that's another nervous system in the body with which we are less familiar. That is the nervous system which takes care of all the housekeeping functions of the body. It tells your heart to beat, it tells your lungs to breathe, it tells your body to perspire, it keeps the peristalsis going which keeps the food moving along the digestive tract, and all of those things which go on in the body constantly which we don't have to think about. If you had to tell your heart and lungs to work, you'd be so busy thinking about it you wouldn't have any time to think of anything else. So Uranus takes care of all those functions. Sometimes there are problems. When Uranus is afflicted in the horoscope, that symbolically in turn affects the sympathetic and parasympathic nervous systems which control the secretion of acid in the stomach. Not surprisingly, one finds Uranus very much involved when one has ulcers, which of course comes from too much acid in the stomach and is related directly or indirectly to too much tension.

Uranus also deals with intuition and extrasensory perception. It deals with the storage and uptake of oxygen of the body. Uranus and Aquarius both deal with how well the body is able to absorb and store oxygen. And we find that people who have very strong Aquarius in their horoscopes to some extent are oxygen starved if there are any afflictions to Uranus. These are people who get out of breath rather easily. You know, all of our bodies have a certain amount of oxygen reserve in case we need it right away, like being threatened in some way. Uranus also relates to any kind of spastic condition. You will see when some people are nervous or uptight there will sometimes be a little vein on their foreheads that will pop. That's a Uranian thing. Any kind of a nervous twitch, like people who sit and drum their fingers on the table or tap their feet all the time, is Uranian related. You can almost tell that they have a hard aspect or two to Uranus.

NEPTUNE

Neptune rules the lymphatic system of the body and this is the system that they didn't tell us too much about when we were going to school. The battle between the white blood cells and the germs takes place both in the blood system and in the lymphatic system, which contain all those things--the antibodies, the white blood cells--that the body has in order to protect itself from an invasion from outside bacteria or any sort of material that gets into the body which could be

harmful or dangerous to the metabolism. So Neptune is very vital from that point of view.

Neptune rules the thymus gland, which is a very important gland and related to the body's resistance to disease. It takes the normal person about 12 years to build up a good, high resistance to disease, which is why children tend to be more susceptible to a lot of medical problems than adults. When there is an under-active thymus gland, you have the typical child who catches everything that comes along to the point that some children have to be injected with the thymus hormone in order to keep them healthy.

Neptune rules the spinal chord and the spinal fluid, but not the spine itself because the bones themselves are ruled by Saturn. But through the center of the spine runs the spinal cord and the spinal fluid, which are ruled by Neptune. The fluid in each cell is also ruled by Neptune.

Neptune relates to medical conditions that are caused by loss of tone. When, for example, you are laid up for a long time and your legs get weak because you have not been exercising, you lose muscle tone. Many of the problems that are related to the aging process are related somehow to the loss of muscle tone. Any kind of situation like that would be Neptune related. Neptune relates to poisoning, it relates to our moods, it relates to a lot of major psychoses, such as schizophrenia and paranoia, where there is a loss of touch with reality. Of course, alcoholism and drug abuse I've mentioned. Where you find a severely afflicted Neptune it means that the body's resistance tends to be lower than the average person's.

PLUTO

Pluto is a very interesting planet. Pluto deals with all replicative processes--any process that takes place where there is a master copy and copies of that are produced. For example, running the Xerox machine or printing is Pluto related. We've said that Mercury rules printing, but that's not exactly true. Mercury rules communication and what is printed in a particular book, but the process of printing a book and replicating it from a master copy is Pluto related.

Mass production is Pluto related, and therefore the process within the body of reproducing cells as they wear out is Pluto related. The thing that controls cell reproduction is the nucleus, the DNA and the RNA. The nucleus, the whole process of reproduction of cells from adult to daughter cells, of growth and maintenance of the body, are Pluto related. When something goes wrong with the DNA and the replicative process, we end up with cancer. Pluto relates to all kinds of cancerous growths in the body. It also relates to any abnormal marks on the body, from the simplest like warts, scars, birthmarks or moles, to the worst, cancer. Pluto itself rules body parasites, worms, and bacteria.

This reprint of a lecture given on Medical Astrology first appeared in the Summer Edition of "ASPECTS", published by Aquarius Workshops Inc., in California.