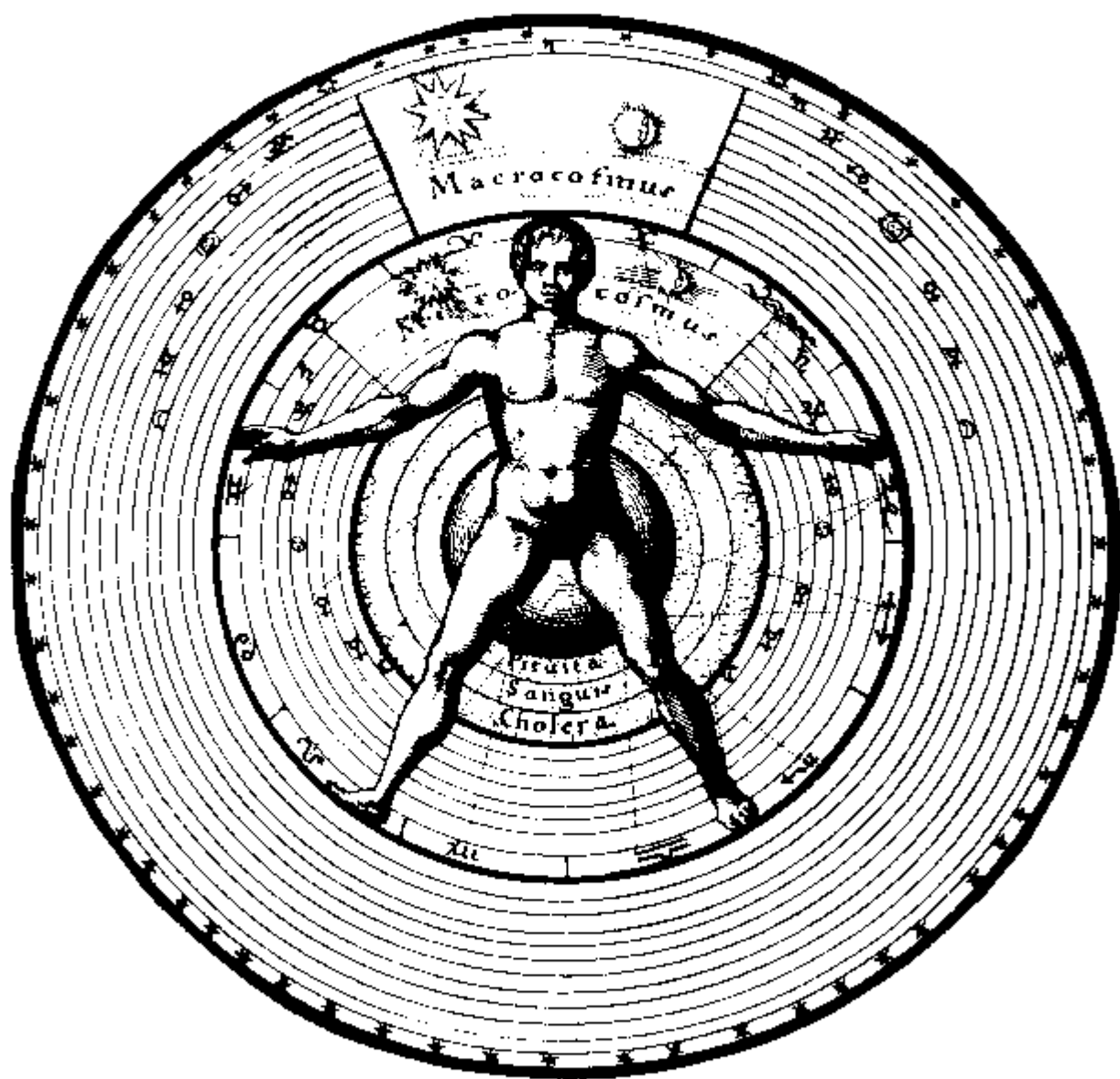


ESSAYS IN MEDICAL ASTROLOGY



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, SAG
Nov. 22-Dec. 21
- ♑ Capricorn, knees, CAP
Dec. 22-Jan. 19
- ♒ Aquarius, legs, AQU
Jan. 20-Feb. 18
- ♓ Pisces, feet, PSC
Feb. 19-Mar. 20

Fundamental Principles of Medical Astrology

PART 1

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

One of the problems that we medical astrologers run into is the frequency in which people with some type of medical problem come to us, natal chart in hand, and ask what is wrong with them. Often, this is because their own doctors have been unable to help them and they turn to astrology as a kind of "court of last resort"—whether the medical problem is a major or a minor one.

The medical astrologer has at least two major problems in answering this kind of question. First, I do not believe that the state of the art of medical astrology is yet advanced enough to give them the full answer they are seeking. Medical astrology, though thousands of years old, is still in its relative infancy. Second, to give this kind of "diagnosis" is illegal—it would be akin to practicing medicine without a license.

Astrology is one of the "helping professions", and most of us who practice it as professionals are motivated by a desire to help our fellow man. Yet, to really be of help, we must realize the limitations of astrology as well as its benefits, and also ensure that in our zeal to help we do not do more damage to the client. This is especially true when giving any advice of a medical nature. It is perhaps best for those untrained in medicine and nutrition to answer medical questions raised by the client with a simple answer—"I have no expertise in this area and therefore I cannot answer your question." Even astrologers are not "all-knowing", and it is best that the client recognizes this fact early in any consultation situation. Know your limitations—and stay within them.

On the other hand, recognizing your limitations, do not let this discourage you in your attempt to learn more about the functioning of your own body, using your natal chart as a kind of roadmap or guide to your own unique physical makeup. No two are "exactly alike", and much can be learned from the horoscope about your special body chemistry and functioning. An accurately timed natal chart, in trained hands, can be one important diagnostic tool in preventive medicine and nutrition. Hopefully this series of articles can help you in this endeavor.

Modern medical practice in our time has forgotten that its ancestry is derived from the astrologer and the alchemist. Every doctor subscribes and swears to the Hippocratic Oath while at the same time forgetting almost everything else that Hippocrates said about medical practice. One of the things Hippocrates did say was that (to paraphrase him) no healer can do an adequate job unless that healer has a fundamental knowledge of astrology. The Greeks had a saying, "Mens Sano In Corpora Sano", which means "a healthy mind in a healthy body." They recognized even at that stage, about two thousand years ago, that what's going on mentally in the body is very much related to what is happening physically. Since then, medical practice has lost track of its roots and is only just now beginning to discover them again.

The "cut and drug" method of medical practice (especially the "drug" part) had its origin in alchemy, principally stemming from Paracelsus, who initiated the use of artificial chemicals (like heavy metal salts) to "cure" certain diseases. While much of his work was later discredited, he started the use of other-than-natural substances to cure disease. Today, our multi-billion dollar medical/drug establishment in the U.S. (the last figure I heard was \$289 billion) has a substantial investment to protect—and any changes in medical practice as a result can only come very slowly.

But changes are still taking place. The rebirth of holistic concepts--treating the whole body and not just the diseased part to restore it to health--IS gaining wider acceptance, especially by younger doctors. Many medical problems, for example, are the result of excessive tension resulting from the way we handle, or fail to handle, our everyday problems. By dealing successfully with these problems, we release the tension and the overall health then improves.

The whole horoscope is involved in doing any kind of analysis, whether it's psychological counseling or medical astrology, but I will limit myself to looking at the four houses in the horoscope which are particularly pertinent to problem solving.

LOOKING AT YOUR HOROSCOPE IN A NEW WAY

When we were students first studying astrology we learned what the houses and the signs meant through keywords. It is easy to think of each of the houses in terms of major keywords, but we sometimes forget that there are more subtle meanings involved. We have all learned that one of the keywords associated with the 6th house is medical. Beginning students often come to the conclusion that it is this house, and this house only, that deals with medical problems. That's not true at all.

So let's look at the 6th house from another point of view, the mental. This is a keyword you don't usually associate with the 6th house, yet you have all learned that the 3rd, 6th, 9th and 12th houses are mental houses. The 6th is traditionally associated with service, health, work, the working environment and co-workers. Consider it now in terms of the way we face and deal with the problems we meet on an everyday basis.

We will be looking at the signs found on the cusp of the 6th house, but first, a word about the house system I use. I have found through about 15 years of research that the Koch system applies best for medical astrology. I'm not saying this is true across the board, but when I refer to the sign on the 6th house cusp, I'm talking about the degree related to the Koch system. The sign on the

6th house cusp tells us the way that we are typically inclined to deal with the everyday problems we have to face. Normally in the horoscope the signs on the 3rd, 6th, 9th and 12th houses are of the same quadruplicity. They'll all be Cardinal, or they'll all be Fixed or they'll all be Mutable unless there's an interception. But let's think in terms of the vast majority of horoscopes.

With Cardinal signs on the cusp of the 6th, these people are typically problem solvers. The tendency is to meet the problems as they come along and deal with them, put them away or put them aside and go on to something else. These are great people to have working for you if you have problems that must be solved on a daily basis. Fixed sign people are the ones who say, "Yes, I know there is a problem and I understand it, but I can live with it." And so they try to live with their problems, not trying to solve each one as it comes along. But, sooner or later, their situation becomes so psychologically painful they have to do something about it. The Mutable signs have two approaches to problem solving. They will either think that they can "work around" the problem (never meeting it head on) or they will pretend that the problem doesn't exist in the hope that it will magically disappear.

When we deal with a problem, hopefully we learn something from the experience. That's why among many of the other things that the 9th house in the horoscope deals with, we say that it represents the wisdom that we accumulate just through the process of living. When we deal with each problem as we meet it in the 6th house, we transfer the knowledge that we have gotten from handling and dealing with the problem to the 9th house. That's where the knowledge should be stored for future reference. But, when we don't deal with our problems and sometimes forget that the problem even exists, we transfer that problem from the 6th house to the 12th house, which is why we talk about the 12th house as representing the subconscious or the unconscious portion of the mind. The problem is still there but we push it down into the unconscious portion of the mind where we even forget that it exists. It hasn't been solved -- it still is there -- and it is still a problem, but we haven't dealt with it.

Now the 3rd house in the horoscope we associate with early childhood education and schooling. But when we go to school in the early grades and high school we're not going to learn reading, writing and arithmetic, per se; they are just tools. School provides formal training to help us deal with problems that we're going to have to face as teenagers and adults when we meet them in the 6th house.

Let me review this again. The 3rd house is the basic training for the problems we're going to have to deal with later in life. The 6th house is where we deal with them. In the 9th we store the energy and the knowledge gotten from dealing with those problems in the 6th house (that's the healthy way to deal with it). When we don't deal with the problems we send them over to be buried in the 12th house (the unhealthy way to deal with them).

In terms of physical health, the 6th house represents acute health problems -- problems that come along, have a short time span and go away--things like colds, flu, pneumonia, appendicitis and things like that. The 12th house deals with chronic medical problems, long-term problems. To give one example of a long-term problem and how this particular problem works--there's been some research that's been done by several respected medical schools with reports published in medical journals in the last couple of years concerning something unique in cases of people who have developed cancer. Six months to a year prior to discovering the cancer, a death of someone very close to them occurred. These people were not able to express their feelings of grief, loss, remorse and all of the emotions

that go with the death of a loved one, and when one holds that in on a mental basis it expresses itself in physical terms as a cancer in the body. This is exactly what we're talking about. Grief is a problem we have to learn to deal with; it's an emotion we have to learn to express, and when we don't express it and hold it in, we bury it in the 12th house. Cancer is the second most important medical problem in our country today. Aside from heart problems, more people have cancer than any other medical problem today. And there is a growing suspicion as more research is done that cancer may well be related to how we deal with problems on a mental level.

Heart problems are chronic too, and related to the 12th house. When we don't deal with a problem we develop tension. When the body becomes tense, the resistance to disease is lowered and therefore the body reacts on a physical basis because of the mental pressure we're subjecting ourselves to in not dealing with problems. Many of the medical and physical conditions we develop during our lifetime are directly or indirectly related to the way that we have been dealing with and solving problems at that particular period in time.

Now to get back to that 6th house and the way we deal with problems. Let's take the Cardinal signs, for example. People with Aries on the 6th house (Koch system) sometimes deal with a problem so rapidly that they have to go back and deal with it a second time. They want to really deal with the problem and get it out of the way. Cancer people put an awful lot of emotional energy into dealing with problems and sometimes a lot of tears. Libras tend to look at all sides of the problem before they deal with it; they're a little slower in dealing with it, but after considering all sides of the problem and all its ramifications, they still deal with it. Capricorn, of course, is a sign which is very much involved with form and structure. They're cautious and careful, all of those things we normally associate with Capricorn. But when Capricorn solves the problem, they really solve it. All of these Cardinal signs are basically problem solvers and their inclination is to solve the problems as they come along, although not all of the problems. The majority of problems they handle pretty well.

When you have a Cardinal sign on the 6th, you have a Cardinal sign on the 12th. With Cardinal signs on the cusps of these health houses, many of the medical conditions that develop are problems that are indirectly the result of thinking the problem is solved, but actually not dealing with the problem in all of its ramifications. There are loose ends left that haven't really been dealt with the way you think they are and the Cardinal type medical problems are the result of thinking you have dealt with a problem sufficiently, but actually not having done it. People with Capricorn on the 6th are very stubborn about going to the doctor. They say they can take care of it themselves. As a matter of fact, those people with Cardinal signs on the 6th say that since they can solve all the rest of their problems, they can solve their medical problems too. Therefore, they are reluctant to go to the doctor. But sometimes they don't recognize when they lack the expertise to solve the problem. That's what I mean by "loose ends" and not having dealt with the problem sufficiently. They think they have dealt with it and they haven't.

Now the Fixed sign people have a greater tendency to live with a problem, and they are the people who have a tendency to transfer problems to the 12th house. People with Fixed signs on the 6th and 12th have the typical Fixed sign problems; problems that are, for example, related to rigidity. Two typical examples are arthritis and rheumatism, both chronic problems. Sometimes people cling to problems as a sort of security blanket. By doing this and making sure everybody knows about it, they get lots and lots of attention, and if they can't get the

love they need from the people around them, they will settle for the pity. That is a characteristic of some people who have fixed signs on the 6th house.

The typical Taurine attitude is don't rock the boat; preserve the status quo at all costs. They're afraid that if they deal with the problem they will have to rock the boat. Leos also like to hang onto the problem, because if you have Leo on the 6th, chances are you have Pisces rising, and one of the things we say about people with Pisces on the ascendant is that they thrive on pity. Leos love to tell everybody about their problems and demonstrate them for anybody who will listen to them because it attracts attention to them. This is how Pisces rising with Leo on the 6th operates.

Scorpio on the cusp of the 6th house will suffer for a long time because they don't want anyone to know they have any medical problems; they see this as a sign of weakness, and when they solve the problem they try to do it so nobody knows about it. They're the opposite of those people with Leo on the 6th who let everybody know they have solved the problem. Leo on the cusp of the 6th house typically gets up on his cross and says, "Look what I've done for you and nobody appreciates me."

I had a teacher once tell me that Aquarius was "fixed but not too fixed" and I think that is a good description. People with Aquarius on the 6th tend to hang on to problems because they're afraid that if they solve them they will hurt other people; they have that humanitarian attitude that goes along with Aquarius, and therefore hesitate in dealing with their problems.

One of the keywords for the Mutable signs is avoidance. Gemini on the cusp of the 6th will talk to anybody and everybody who will listen to them about their problems, because by talking about the problem they avoid dealing with it. Virgo on the cusp of the 6th house will analyze the problem, look at all the details, and pick it to death. By analyzing it, and analyzing it, and analyzing it, they avoid dealing with it directly. As long as they're analyzing they're not solving the problem.

People with Sagittarius on the cusp have a basic psychological need to be recognized as being an "expert" in something. I have a friend with a Sag stellium including the Sun and he's an expert on Coca-Cola bottles. He's got every bottle that was ever made by Coca-Cola, a living room full of them, and there have been times when the Coca-Cola Company has asked him things because he has a better collection apparently than they do. He's probably the world's expert on Coca-Cola bottles. It's rather a narrow field of expertise, but Sag's like to be recognized as experts in something. When one has Sag on the cusp of the 6th, one typically asks -- what do the experts say about it? What did Dr. Spock, or this or that expert say? They will go to their priest, their neighbor, their lawyer, anyone they consider expert in the area of the problem they are trying to solve. And of course, while consulting with all these experts, they are avoiding dealing with the problem.

Now we come to my favorite -- Pisces on the cusp of the 6th house. Pisces has two plays. One is, of course, the use of alcohol and drugs because Pisces is ruled by Neptune which rules alcohol and drugs. "My" usual solution when "I" don't want to deal with a problem right then is to say I will sleep on it. Maybe I'll get the solution in my sleep or I'll deal with it when I'm fresh and feel like looking at it.

Again, I want to emphasize that how we are dealing with our problems is basic to any understanding of medical astrology. If we are dealing with them in a positive way and keeping the tension level down, then we are helping ourselves maintain

pretty good health. By minimizing any problems that come along before they affect the health, we are contributing to its preservation.

HOW ARE YOU DEALING WITH YOUR ECLIPSES?

Those of you who have heard my lecture on eclipses know I have said on many occasions that when these various solar eclipses occur they place great emphasis on the house they are in. You all have 29° Leo somewhere in your charts and 29° Leo is where the last eclipse occurred. Now you're all going to find yourselves having to deal with problems related to whatever house 29° Leo occupies. So you want to keep in mind that from now until the next eclipse, which occurs in February 1980, you're going to be dealing with problems relating to that house. How you deal with them will, of course, be related to how you feel in the next few months. So spot that house now in your horoscope and ask yourself what problems you are beginning to have to face in those areas and how you are dealing with them. (EDITOR'S NOTE: Since the time Mr. Jansky delivered this lecture, the next eclipse has occurred on February 16th at 27° Aquarius.)

If that eclipse has also fallen on a natal planet, it means that the emphasis is greater than one would normally expect. A conjunction in a house or an opposition to a planet in the opposing house means there's going to be emphasis and you're going to be facing some "real" problems. If conjunct with not more than an orb of 3 degrees, it means that the energy which that planet represents in the horoscope is going to be particularly important.

A solar eclipse is a conjunction of the Sun and the Moon, and a lunar eclipse is an opposition between the Sun and the Moon. Conjunctions and oppositions are the two aspects people feel most strongly. Unless you're rather an advanced soul, if you pay attention to only the conjunctions and oppositions I believe you'll find that 95% of the time you'll have yourself pretty well covered. I do not pay much attention to other aspects that eclipses make to natal planets.

When an eclipse falls in your Sixth or Twelfth House you must, among other things, pay more close attention to health matters and to your diet at these times. If you neglect them now, you may find that your health will be occupying more of your time that you'd like to be devoting to it in an attempt to regain it!

One of the appreciations that comes from learning basic medical astrology is the fact that once you see in physical terms - in terms of the body and the way the symbolism of astrology relates to its functioning - then you can take that same concept and apply it on a more abstract basis to the psychological operation of the horoscope. It has occurred to me that it might be kind of fun to take a class of new students who have never studied astrology before and, instead of teaching them astrology in the classical manner we typically do it, teach them medical astrology right from the first. Once you understand astrology in terms of physical functioning of the body, everything else falls into place so beautifully. I hope that you will see from this lecture that the terms of medical astrology apply beautifully to general astrology as well.

(Part One of this lecture appeared in the Spring 1980 edition of "ASPECTS", a publication of Aquarius Workshops Inc., in California.)