

toolsⁱⁿ medical astrology

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Welcome to this session in which we will discuss some of the tools that are available to us in medical astrology. In the lectures that I have been giving over the years, I always show you how to read a chart from the perspective of medical astrology. Today, I want to introduce you to some additional techniques that you might not know about. We're going to explore three separate methods:

1. *Anatomical correspondences*.
2. The *Decumbiture Chart*—a chart for when you get ill.
3. The use of *eclipses* with respect to health.

Anatomical Correspondences

You'll get an introduction to several techniques that many astrologers know nothing about. Let's start with the anatomical correspondences, from Aries to Pisces. The anatomical correspondences used to be on the NCGR Web site and hopefully will be listed there again. They can be found on the Internet simply by searching for "Anatomical Correspondences." The recent *Geocosmic Journal—The Best of NCGR*, Spring 2006—also lists them.

There are many sources of degrees of the zodiac. If you go into the *Nicolas Devore Encyclopedia of Astrology*¹ you will find information from

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*Please read the disclaimer at the end of this article for important information. Always consult with a licensed health care practitioner when you have a medical condition that requires attention.

DEFINITION

A highly emphasized planet is a planet that stands out in some way. It can be (i) the planet ruling the chart, as it rules the Ascendant; (ii) a planet in high focus, such as elevated—i.e., closest to the Midheaven, an angular planet or a singleton; or (iii) an unaspected planet.

A planet receiving several aspects from other planets is considered to have “weight.”¹

DID YOU KNOW THAT...

Looking at the position of and aspects to the planets is very important. In general, if there’s something prominent with the Sun, it is a disease that is likely to last only a short while. Prominence of the Moon, on the other hand, is indicative of a recurring disease.

Keywords for other planets:

Mercury—changeable

Mars—short and violent

Jupiter—short

Saturn—chronic

DC: Chronic would be Saturn. Recurring means it comes and it goes. Literally. Mercury means it is changeable. Venus is neither long nor short, but it is not violent. It is sort of in between. Mars can be short and violent. Jupiter is short.

The first thing you look at is the Ascendant, to see the vitality of the patient. Let’s find out how each of the elements plays a role. If the Ascendant is in Fire, the vitality is strong and there will be a quick recovery. If the Ascendant is in Earth, it means that there is a sluggish metabolism and you may not be that robust. If it is in Water, it can be a weak vitality or it can be problem with an emotional connection. You supposedly “caused” it yourself.

AUDIENCE: *Could it be psychosomatic?*

DC: Yes, it could be psychosomatic. Mutability is also psychosomatic. Water is emotionally based. But Mutable is even more psychosomatic than water.

Disease conditions related to the element of Air—note that this chart has Air rising—could be caused by mental or nervous disorders. It means that the subject is prone to a certain kind of problem, but at the same time the presence of Air indicates there’s a certain amount of strength. In general, Fire is the strongest, Air is next and Earth and Water are more or less equal.

AUDIENCE: *Earth and Water are the same?*

DC: Of course they are different, but we are talking about how the disease unfolds in relation to the element, and how the body—Ascendant—recovers from disease. There’s a sluggishness with Earth, but Water, especially a lack of it, can indicate too many toxins; too much Water has to do with the emotions, or water-logged tissues. Be careful not to take just one thing and look at it. You have to take the whole chart in consideration.

Let’s look at the Ascendant: notice that it is in Air, so although this person is vulnerable to illness, there is still a certain amount of vitality. Maybe there’s a nervous or mental component to the problem. A nervous component would make sense since it is Parkinson’s and there’s trembling. Then you take the planet ruling the Ascendant, which is Venus. Is it dignified or is it weak? Look at the condition of the ruler of the Ascendant. In this case it is not dignified as Venus rules Libra and it is in the opposite sign; it is in Aries. However, fortunately, Venus gets some fairly good aspects.