

Ox onset of a disease

bases of Zang
flavors
tissues

Chapter 10 The Generation and Completion of the Five Depots

10-70-3

The correlate of the heart are the vessels;¹
its splendor [appears in] the complexion;²
its ruler are the kidneys.³

The correlate of the lung is the skin;⁴
its splendor [appears in] the body hair;⁵
its ruler is the heart.⁶

1 Wang Bing: "The qi of fire moves hastily and the [movement in the] vessels always equals it. The heart depot corresponds to the fire. Hence [the text states: 'the heart] is the correlate of the [movement in the] vessels.'" Wu Kun: "The heart generates the blood and stores the spirit. Hence the [movement in the] vessels is material manifestation of the blood and the operation of the spirit. Hence [the text states:] 'The heart is the correlate of to the [movement in the] vessels.'" 527/47: "Following the character 合 a character 于 is missing; it should be supplemented on the basis of *Yun ji qi qian* 雲笈七籤 ch.57, nr.7. The same applies to the following wordings 合皮 etc." Yan Hongchen & Gao Guangzhen/39: "合 is 配合, 'to pair,' 'to mate.' For instance, the heart is inside, the vessels are outside. Inside and outside constitute a pair. Hence [the text states:] 'The heart and the vessels form a pair.'"

2 Wang Bing: "Fire flames upwards and has a red color. Hence its splendor appears in the face and [manifests itself in] a red complexion."

3 Wang Bing: "主 is to say: [the heart] stands in a relationship of fear with its ruler and the kidneys. Fire stands in a relationship of fear with fire. Water is its officer. Hence it stands in a relationship of fear with the kidneys." Zhang Zhicong: "The heart rules the fire and it is controlled by the kidneys, [i.e.,] water. Hence the kidneys are the ruler of the generation and transformation performed by the heart depot." 1028/2: "主 has the meaning here of 受制, 'to be controlled by,' or 被剋, 'to be subdued by.'" For a detailed etymology of 主 in the present context, see 2308/46.

4 Wang Bing: "The qi of metal is firm and fixed. The appearance of the skin is so, too. The lung depot corresponds to the metal. Hence it is a correlate of the skin."

5 Wang Bing: "Hair is attached to the skin. Hence it is where the splendor [of the lung] appears [externally]."

6 Wang Bing: "Metal stands in a relationship of fear with the fire. Fire is its officer; hence [the lung] stands in a relationship of fear with the heart."

The correlate of the liver are the sinews;⁷

its splendor [appears in] the nails;⁸

its ruler is the lung.⁹

The correlate of the spleen is the flesh;¹⁰

its splendor [appears in] the lips;¹¹

its ruler is the liver.¹²

The correlate of the kidneys are the bones;¹³

their splendor is the hair on the head;¹⁴

their ruler is the spleen.¹⁵

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Hence,

if one consumes large quantities of salty [food],

then the [contents of the] vessels will congeal so that [their flow] is impeded

7 Wang Bing: "The nature of wood [includes] being bent or straight. The physical appearance of the sinews is identical. The liver depot corresponds to the wood. Hence it is a correlate of the sinews."

8 Wang Bing: "Nails are outgrowths of the sinews. Hence they are where the splendor [of the liver] appears [externally]."

9 Wang Bing: "Wood stands in a relationship of fear with metal. Metal is its officer; hence [the liver] stands in a relationship of fear with the lung."

10 Wang Bing: "The nature of the soil is soft and thick. The physical appearance of the flesh is identical. The spleen depot corresponds to the soil. Hence it is a correlate of the flesh."

11 Wang Bing: "The mouth is the officer of the spleen. Hence the lips are where the splendor of the spleen appears [externally]. 'Lips' refers to the locations of the white-colored four borders. Not to the red [lips]."

12 Wang Bing: "The soil stands in a relationship of fear with the wood. Wood is its officer. Hence [the spleen] stands in a relationship of fear with the liver."

13 Wang Bing: "The nature of water is to flow and be moist. The essence qi is identical. Bones are penetrated by essence marrow. Hence [the kidneys] are linked to the bones."

14 Wang Bing: "The brain is the sea of marrow; it is ruled by the qi of the kidneys. Hence the hair on the head is where the splendor [of the kidneys] appears [externally]."

15 Wang Bing: "Water stands in a relationship of fear with the soil. The soil is its officer. Hence [the kidneys] stand in a relationship of fear with the spleen."