

Living with parasites: understanding the nature of decay

*“There was an Old Man with a beard,
Who said, 'It is just as I feared!
Two Owls and a Hen,
Four Larks and a Wren,
Have all built their nests in my beard!”*

-Edward Lear

We like to believe when we have a bath or shower that we are cleaning the body, that we are washing away all the dirt and bacteria and that when we eat a “detox” diet the body is being “cleared and cleansed” of any “foreign body” which may be present so we are “clean”, but in actual fact the human body is an ecological system, a landscape of all kinds of life. It is impossible to separate “us” from “them”, we are at one with each other. In health or at a strong-energy phase the body naturally carries bacteria in the guts which help to break down and absorb food and “rot” down materials, there are plenty of symbiotic bacteria that grow within us and are part of us.

Human beings are a “hive” of activity and not just the DNA strands we like to think are “our own” but integrated as a borderless expression, interacting with all of life. The human being is without borders, it is not a self-circulatory system but open inside and out, so in fact there is no real “inside” or “outside”! The borders of the skin are not so much boundaries as they are the extent/limit to which energy of a certain frequency can be pushed outwards, like a bubble of energy, it can only grow as large as the energy that forms it.

Proliferations of the seemingly external environment take root inside the body and are expressed as the “bowel flora” which have a parasitic quality that is completely symbiotic with the human and has been from the dawn of humans. But some parasitic entities occur, much like rot or mould on a degrading fruit, when there is pathological change and the energy of the body changes and reduces, so nature’s processes of decay begin and this is the situation with all parasitic infestations. If the body’s frequency of energy is strong enough and powerful enough it simply does not move so easily into the decaying dying-off phase. When the body’s energy is weaker and slower then the environment begins to consume the body tissues and parasites are one of the ways this occurs. Fundamentally what this requires is a weakened energy of “immune” system and this is the entry point of the parasitic process to occur and manifest in the body.

For people with a weakened energy who have damp conditions of the body there can be fungus growing, much like one would find in rotting woodland regions in the outer world, where the conditions are cool and damp. This is a kind of rotting going on. People who are considered in naturopathic medicine to have a “candida overgrowth” have this kind of issue. It is a situation where the conditions are right for decay to occur and the type of decay is fungus. Bacterial and viral infections occur in this very same way, when there is a situation where the body’s energy is low then other aspects

of nature take over the body allowing bacterial infection and overgrowths to occur, viruses can also come proliferate in the tissues.

Interestingly these ideas of “bacteria” and “viruses” are not part of energetic medicine. In the ancient world all forms of life were considered as having a quality of energy. All forms of external energy that affect the body energy are akin to a climatic condition of cold of varying degrees of strength or weakness in comparison to the body’s natural power of energy pushing inside-out. The virulent strains of virus or bacteria would be considered to be powerful-cold and the less so would be lesser-cold. It is always in relation to the body-energy of the individual, the condition of the pathogenic influence is less of an issue than the body energy that is pushing outwards because as we know an elderly person or a child can easily die of something that an adult in their prime would have little problem dealing with.

Generally the body condition needs to be cooler than normal to allow a parasitic energy to proliferate, so that the energy of the body is low and not pushing outwards at the surfaces, and also damp. This is the perfect condition for microbes, bacteria, amoeba and many other parasitic entities to start their decay process. Parasites by definition are any organism that affects the body in a way that to some degree or other is about its necrosis and decay, so essentially the process of parasites is literally the process of decay or dying.

This is interesting. Very often we look at parasites as things we want to be rid of, people will go to enormous lengths to “kill off the invasion” but in fact the nature of the parasite is that it can only manifest in the body when the conditions are right, as expressed in any decaying process. When there is space or room for the parasitic energy to dwell within the body so it comes in and spreads its effect. In all cases the parasitic energy therefore creates a cooling off of the body energy, moving it closer to death. Of course parasites can cause all kinds of temperature fluctuations to occur within the body, severe heat or severe cold, but fundamentally their nature is to live off and to draw on a decaying or weakened body and this is how they work their way in.

Modern medicine’s focus of attention is always on the parasite, great importance is attached to finding the parasite and killing it off within the system. As with approaches to cancer and chemotherapy there is a focus in the symptom of the problem, that is either the tumour or the parasite itself, with no understanding that fundamentally the origin of the problem lies in the weakness of the physiological system. While naturopathy moves a step closer to this with the suggestion of immune-boosters, it does so in a piecemeal fashion that is still devoid of energetics, therefore doesn't engage with the reality of what is happening and so can miss the energetic background.

In Classical and Ancient medicine the approach is opposite, the idea being that if you change the conditions of cool and damp to drier and hotter then one eliminates the conditions in which the parasite resides and as a result there can be no more parasites. Also at the same time the herbs and treatment methods that are strengthening to the body because their nature is warmer and drier tend to be the exact opposite of the energy of the parasite which tends to be cooler and damper so in fact the treatment that kills off parasites is the same one that strengthens the body.

By viewing things energetically we avoid the struggle of focusing on the parasite, which process can kill off the bodily energy in order to reach the parasite. In a way chemotherapy that kills parasites or that kills cancer cells is the same, it is completely ignorant of the body's needs and singleminded in its approach of eliminating the parasite. This means that the body gets damaged in the process of ridding it of the parasite. This is okay when the situation is acute and something must be done immediately, but until this time and when the situation is chronic it is always important to primarily strengthen the body.

Sometimes the body finds it really hard to recover, the energy of the body is too low which means that a person lives with the parasite, much like those who live with the HIV virus or hepatitis or other similar conditions (interestingly cancer too, which is not considered parasitic-based). In these cases there is a balance point held. A person's living conditions, situation in life or myriad other possibilities can prevent an improvement in the body energy, yet there is enough energy to hold back massive proliferation so there is a holding-pattern. This often occurs for example in those people with fungal infections on toe-nails or on the surfaces of the skin that are otherwise quite healthy. The body energy doesn't extend outwards enough to be able to clear the body completely of the conditions so they live with the mild decay at the periphery of the body or even inside but at a low-level.

This is a common feature in humans and also animals in the wild and very often parasites can live symbiotically without significant damage to the host, neither is the host causing the parasites too much damage, so that both can live together. This is the life-cycle of malarial parasites and those that cause sleeping sickness in animals, it is only when there is a jump of these parasites to humans that problems occur, because the strength of the parasite is very strong in comparison to that of the human who unless they are very strong are unable to deal with this like the parasite's normal animal host. It is interesting how not everybody gets affected the same by parasites. This is always to do with the nature of the constitutional strength of the body and simply having a health system that does not have room to allow in a decaying process. However if the parasite is itself very strong humans have a problem and this is seen in the flash-killer dis-eases in the tropics or the SARS epidemic and the like, when the human's body is exposed to the pernicious energetic coldness. These parasites break down the body energy and consume it quickly so for most of us it's a wind of change that is impossible to counteract.

The human being is not as perfectly "clean" as we like to make out and as Douglas Harding puts it, we are really a "walking zoo" of cellular entities. In a sense the body is a collection of cells all moving as one unit rather than a "person", so those aspects which are not "me" or are "me" are actually hard to define. In fact it is an interaction of life and death which is seamless and completely one. There is no beginning and no end to this.

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