Θεοφράστου Περί ἰλιγγον

1 οἱ ἰλιγγοὶ γίνονται ὅταν ἡ πνεύμα ἀλλότριον περὶ τὴν κεφαλὴν ἔλθῃ ἡ υγρότης περιττοματικὴ [Θ] ἀπὸ τροφῆς ἐνίας, οἶνον ἢ τοῦ οίνου ἢ καὶ ἄλλου τινὸς χυλοῦ, ἢ τρίτον ὅταν κινῇ τις κύκλῳ τὴν κεφαλὴν· ὁ γὰρ τόπος ὁ περὶ τὸν ἑγκέφαλον φύσει μὲν υγρός ἐστιν, ὅταν δὲ ἔλθῃ τι πλέον ἀλλότριον βιάζεται διαδυώμενον πρὸς τὰς φλέβας <καὶ> ὦθει κύκλῳ τὸ ύπάρχον ύγρόν, ὡστε τρόπον τινά τῷ αὐτῷ συμβαίνει καὶ εἶναι τὶς προαίρεσει κύκλῳ κινῇ τὴν κεφαλὴν. οὕθεν γὰρ διαφέρει ἔξωθεν ἢ ἔσωθεν εἶναι τὸ κινοῦν. οὔσης <δὲ> οἶνον δίνης τινὸς τῆς φοράς <καὶ> τοῦ ύγροῦ μὴ συνεχοῦς ὄντος ἀλλ' ἐν τῇ κινήσει τοῦ μὲν ύστεροῦντος τοῦ δὲ προτεροῦντος τὸ υφιστάμενον ἀντικρόδουν ἵστησι, τὸ δὲ ἰστάμενον διὰ τὸ μὴ ἰσορροπεῖν ὁμοίως αὐτῇ ἢ νῦν ταύτῃ φέρεται καὶ τὸν ἰλιγγον ποιεῖ καὶ καταβάλλει πολλάκις.

2-3 cf. Archigenem ap. Aëtium Amidenum, Iatrica 6.7.1-3; Anonymum Parisinum 17.1 p.110.6-7 Garofalo 2-10 Galenus, De locis affectis 3 t.8 p.202.11-203.8 Kühn


Theophrastus, On Dizziness

1 (Cases of) dizziness come about when either (i) an alien breath or
(ii) a fluidity from residue\(^{35}\) moves around the head, from certain
types of nourishment, for example either (from) wine or (from) some
other juice, or thirdly (iii) when someone moves his head (round) in a
circle. For the region around the brain is fluid by nature, and
whenever some alien excess enters into it, it forces its way in,
percolating to the vessels, and drives the fluid that is there in a circle,
so that in a way the same happens as when someone deliberately
moves his head in a circle. For it makes no difference whether the
origin of movement is external or internal. The movement being like
some whirlpool, and the fluid not being continuous, but part being
behind in the movement and part in advance, what settles strikes
against (what is moving) and brings it to a halt; and what is brought
to a halt, because it is not in equilibrium in the same way as (what is
moving), is carried in whatever direction (what is moving) flows, and
produces the dizziness, and often throws (people) to the ground.

1 Phot. 278 526a30 (CB t.8 p.160.16): From the (work) On Dizziness. 2-8 ibid.
278 526a33-40 (CB t.8 p.160.17-24): (I read) that (cases of) dizziness come about
when an alien breath (pneuma) comes into the head, or a fluidity from residue, either
from some food, for example from wine, or from some other juice; and also when
someone moves his head (round) in a circle. For the region around the brain is fluid
by nature, and when it receives some alien excess and this forces its way in,
percolating to the veins, it drives the fluid that was there before in a circle. 10-15
ibid. 526a40-b3 (CB p.160.24-7): The movement being like some whirlpool, and the
fluid not being uniformly continuous, but part being in advance in the movement and
part behind, because of the lack of equilibrium produces the dizziness, and often
throws (people) to the ground.

\(^{35}\) I.e. the remains of digested nourishment.