

The Antiseptic

Estd. 1904

Indexed in
IndMED

A MONTHLY JOURNAL OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY

Email: admin@theantiseptic.in

www.theantiseptic.in

Vol. 118 • No. 9

SEPTEMBER 2021

ISSN 0003-5998 • ₹ 100



INDIA'S THIRD COVID WAVE

Page No. 14

Black Fungus - Affecting Life of the Commoners

SANJAY AGARWAL

A disease that is separated from Corona affecting a large mass of people is Black Fungus. The infection is mainly seen among the patients who have already suffered from Covid 19 and having different diseases like HIV/Aids, Uncontrollable Diabetes, Mellitus and Cancer. It is a superficial fungus infection seen at a very early stage but can be deadly in a much shorter time.

Mucormycosis is another scientific term for Black Fungus Disease. Commoners are getting Mucormycosis by breathing in a fungal spore which can be spread in a hospital or home. The air humidifier or oxygen tanks contain dirty water, which is considered a major reason for Black Fungus's growth, as stated by research scholars and medical experts.

What is this fungus?

Mucormycosis, labelled as Black Fungus, is majorly caused by the mould found in the soil in decaying organic matter. It is formed on rotten leaves. People affected by the epidemic disease named Black Fungus have somehow got it from the hospitals. They were admitted for Covid 19 and in-home, mainly affected by the air humidifier and oxygen tanks containing the dirty water.

Dr. Sanjay Agrawal,
Leading Pharmaceutical Consultant and Editor-in-Chief of IJM Today, Post Graduation Diploma in Naturopathy and Yoga, Visiting Faculty, Global Institute of Healthcare Management, Delhi. 6/146, Malviya Nagar, Jaipur - 302 017. Rajasthan.

Specially Contributed to "The Antiseptic"
Vol. 118 No. 9 & P : 07 - 08

How dangerous is Black Fungus?

The infection of Mucormycosis is undeniably dangerous. It needs to be caught at a very early stage as aggressive and dead tissue has to be scraped away. The surgeons have to remove the patient's nose, eyes, or even jaw to stop the infection from getting into their brain. According to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the average fatality rate is around 54% as estimated to date. One savior part is that this infection is not contagious, but people who cannot have early detection will give life in just a few days. The body defenses repel the fungus, and those with severe immunity weakness happen to be affected at a more significant rate.

Why are the Covid patients at risk?

With the coronavirus and other above mentioned diseases, this fungal infection is likely to affect and take control over the body and mind. The dangerous phenomenon is called 'Cytokine Storm,' which can occur when the immunity system will overdrive of damaging the organs. The doctors have been prescribing steroids to reduce the immune system response. The weakness of the body's defense and increased sugar levels in the body thrives off the fungus in the system.

The diabetic risk factor is due to the excessive sugar stream in the body. These categories of people are at a higher risk. Some hospitals and doctors have been prescribing steroids. Some people are taking them home without

any medical advice. As per the Public Health Foundation of India, Professor K. Srinath Reddy told AFP, "People have started using (steroids) liberally, excessively and inappropriately."

There are around 7000+ cases in India, where 2000 cases in Gujarat alone as per the latest case details cited by the Government Research Centers. At least nine states of India have now declared the infection an epidemic. Several cities have opened special hospital wards. The Authorities have not said how many people have died nationally from Mucormycosis. According to the Hindustan Times, around 219 people are likely to die due to this infection.

As per the physician and molecular microbiologist at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health - Fungal spores are everywhere. They are pretty efficient at clearing them from the human lungs. The Covid 19 has highly damaged the lungs. Now a whole double whammy: reduced capacity of the naturally clear pores and the reduced immune response resulting from the steroids.

The collision factors are complicated by something else, years before the Covid 19 had appeared on Earth; the Mucormycosis seem to have been particularly ferocious in the patients with uncontrolled diabetes. It happened in the rural areas among adults 30 years old and beyond. Most will be having suboptimal control of the sugar. The patients will test Covid positive

that are often prescribed to be a high steroid dose in the first week. The irrational and unscientific treatment of the Covid is mainly standardized everywhere- says the research department.

Symptoms of the Black Fungus

The Black Fungus ideally had few symptoms, which one mentioned below;

- The symptoms mainly show some common signs like an excessive runny nose.
- You may experience swelling and pain in your eyes when you contact Black Fungus infections.
- In some significant cases of the Black Fungus infection affecting Covid patients, they are experiencing eyelid loss, blurred vision, and in extreme cases, loss of eyesight.
- Appearance of the dark spots is seen around the nose of the infected patients. In such a case, the organ needs to be removed to stop the disease from reaching the brain.

Medical specialists commented that patients came with typical common symptoms. Due to the spread of eyes infection, some patients have to remove the organ – eye by surgery to stop the growth of the disease.

Some patients had to undergo removing the jaws that are infected and removed through oppression. It is seen in the Black Fungal infections post the Covid 19 affected patients.

What can be the prevention for the Black Fungal Disease?

To prevent the Black Fungus Infection, you need to get the sugar levels checked on time and keep it limited. The patients recovering from the Covid 19 must be tested in time to keep their sugar levels

right. By preventing the infection, the doctors must inject steroids to the patients without any delay.

According to Rahul Baxi, it is essential to give an accurate dosage of steroids to patients free from corona infection, as per the diabetologist from Mumbai. Delays can be fatal.

How can the Black Fungus be treated?

Identifying the cause of the Mucormycosis at the early stages can be very challenging. Unlike any fungal infection, there is no blood-based test that can detect it. The diagnosis of the Mucormycosis is possible by doing Biopsy. The sample is followed by a CT scan. It implies the availability of specialized personnel to perform the tasks and advance equipment to support them.

The prevention of Black Fungus is possible by injecting the drugs in time. The anti-fungus intravenous injection is very effective for this disease, as considered by many. As per research data, there is a reduction of 99% of patients once this drug is injected into the body. It is the prescribed Anti-Fungus drug whose dosage depends on patients

based on their medical history and weaknesses.

Antifungal drugs are in short supply to India, as per the reports. These are unaffordable for patients due to higher costs. There are few categories of antifungals which are made available in decades. The newest versions are less toxic to the patients, are expensive, and even scary. As per the medical research reports, “For the preferred drug, one-day therapy costs 30,000 rupees (about \$410), an item of catastrophic health expenditure for 99 percent of Indians. The therapy often lasts for weeks and requires an intravenous infusion, admission to the hospital, and close monitoring of the kidney function.”

It is not possible to point out or predict that when this shadow epidemic of Mucormycosis will end. Much greater awareness of the patients’ susceptibility will allow the medical experts and doctors in India to recognize the cases as early as possible. It is another way an epidemic has caught the world, making it hard to live by amidst everything.



Post-Menopausal Hypertension: Detecting, Treating, Accompanying, Preventing

Menopause is an inevitable clinical progression in the hormonal life of women, and usually takes place towards the age of 51. The progressive deficiency in estrogen is associated with a period of metabolic vascular transition. The premenopausal period accelerates metabolic transition. Metabolic “transition” is manifested by an atherogenous clinic-biological profile with insulin resistance, abdominal obesity, diabetes, lowering of HDL-cholesterol and an increase of LDL-cholesterol. A little later, vascular “transition” appears, and is characterized by coagulation activity, endothelial dysfunction and a decrease in arterial compliance or suppleness (also known as arterial rigidity).

La Medecine en France