

Blastomycosis is a rare infectious multisystem disease that is caused by the fungus *Blastomyces dermatitidis*. The symptoms vary greatly according the affected organ system. It is characterized by fever, chills, cough, and/or difficulty breathing (dyspnea). In the chronic phase of the disease, the lungs and skin are most frequently affected. The genitourinary tract and bones may also be involved. Blastomycosis is a rare infectious disease caused by the fungus *Blastomyces dermatitidis*. This fungus grows and is inhaled through mold spores. In the body the fungus converts to yeasts and invades the lungs. It travels throughout the body through the blood. Blastomycosis usually affects people with a compromised immune system.