

BLACK FUNGUS IN COVID PATIENTS— AWARENESS IS THE KEY

By Dr. Jyotirmay S Hegde, Consultant ENT & Skullbase Surgeon, Columbia Asia Hospital, Whitefield (A unit of Manipal Hospitals)



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HEALTH & FITNESS



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Article Health

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THE KEY

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The various manifestation of Covid 19 virus has further raised concerns among public. Sometimes, this virus can affect an individual without showing symptoms and in few cases, people may face severe health complications like high fever, breathing problem, drop in oxygen saturation and even pneumonia. Mucormycosis or commonly called as black fungus is one such condition due to Covid 19 which is rising alarmingly among patients who have tested positive for the virus and recovered from it.

There has been a steady increase in the number of black fungus cases in the last few days. If this condition is not detected and treated at an early stage, it can rapidly spread to the other parts of the body like eyes and brain and cause loss of vision and at times even fatal. Moreover, the reduced availability of antifungal medicines like Amphotericin-B has further complicated the

Follow Covid 19 protocols of wearing masks, washing hands and maintaining social distancing
Keep diabetes under control
Monitor blood glucose level post-Covid-19 discharge
Use steroid judiciously – correct timing, correct dose and duration
Use clean, sterile water for humidifiers during oxygen therapy
Use antibiotics/antifungals medicines judiciously
Do not miss warning signs and symptoms particularly in the context of immunosuppression and/or Covid-19 patients on immunomodulators

Taking precautions is the best way to keep away from infections. However, even if an individual contracts the infection, identifying the symptoms and taking the immediate medical help always aids in treating it effectively.

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Author : Dr. Jyotirmay S Hegde, Consultant ENT & Skullbase Surgeon, Columbia Asia Hospital, Whitefield (A unit of Manipal Hospitals)

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BLACK FUNGUS IN COVID PATIENTS : WHO HAVE TO BE MORE CAUTIOUS?

Black fungus in Covid patients is one such condition which is rising alarmingly and has further raised concerns among public. Awareness is the key and if not treated at an early stage, it can rapidly spread to eyes and brain and cause loss of vision and at times even fatal.

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