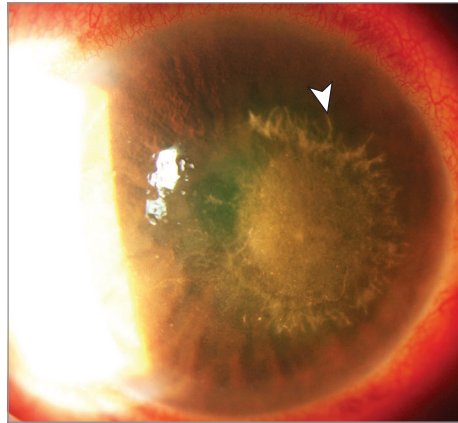


Ophthalmic Images

Dematiaceous Fungal Keratitis With Tentacles Mimicking *Pythium* Keratitis

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A Corneal infiltrate, presentation



B Corneal infiltrate, follow-up visit

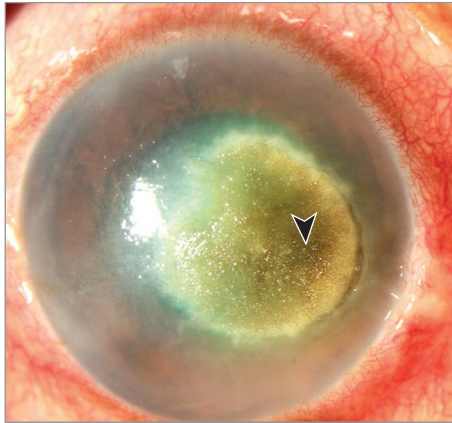


Figure. A, Slitlamp photograph image of the corneal infiltrate at presentation with sclerotic scatter showing marginal tentacular projections (white arrowhead). B, Slitlamp photograph image of the corneal infiltrate at the follow-up visit showing surface pigmentation (black arrowhead).

A 60-year-old man presented with a corneal infiltrate paracentrally measuring 5 × 5 mm in his right eye with tentacular projections (Figure, A) at the margins, characteristic of *Pythium insidiosum* keratitis.



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Corneal scraping showed fungal hyphae on smear examination. On clinical suspicion, the patient was treated with linezolid, 0.2%, and itraconazole, 1%, eye drops as topical linezolid is one of the treatment modalities of choice for *Pythium* keratitis.¹ On follow-up, the

patient presented with an increase in pain and deterioration of vision in that eye, along with brownish-black surface pigmentation of the infiltrate (Figure, B), suggestive of dematiaceous fungal keratitis, and the culture grew *Curvularia* species. Treatment was altered as per culture report, and the patient responded to topical natamycin and itraconazole with healing of the infiltrate with scar formation and visual improvement. Hence, all corneal infiltrates with tentacles may not be *Pythium* even with characteristic clinical appearance.

ARTICLE INFORMATION

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