



**Information for Homoeopathy Practitioners
for Symptomatic Management of Suspected
and Diagnosed cases of Mucormycosis**

**Government of India
Ministry of Ayush
Drug Policy Section**



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Preamble

The second wave of COVID-19 pandemic has brought with it not only the detrimental effect due to the disease itself but also has brought together with it add on infections following a blow to the immune system of an individual convalescing with the disease. An emerging threat of fungal infections has been noticed recently in immune-compromised patients and following immune suppressants drugs which were earlier found in rare cases. With the patients already left immune-compromised with the conventional treatment effective measures are being explored in the complementary and alternative interventions either standalone or add on to the standard care.

India being a tropical country has favourable temperature and humidity for growth of fungal infections. Several types of fungal infections have already been effectively treated by Homoeopathy clinicians time and now. With the increasing cases of special variety of fungal infection, Mucormycosis (black fungus) the present information have been prepared with experience of senior clinicians in treating specific fungal infections and researchers of the system, for efficient treatment of suspected and diagnosed cases of Mucormycosis with Homoeopathy. This condition requires hospital based treatment under supervision and Homoeopathic medicines can be prescribed in an integrated manner. Since mostly immune compromised patients get this infection, strict monitoring of blood sugar and other vitals is required.

General Disclaimer

- Patients need to have a general consultation from a qualified physician before starting any intervention.
- In all moderate/severe cases, immediate referral to a higher medical centre as per the Government guidelines is advised.
- Patients with co-morbidities like hypertension, diabetes etc., are advised to continue their respective medications and continue taking consultation from their family physicians.
- Physicians are required to prescribe medicines, potencies and dosage as per Homoeopathic principles.

Recommendation of Prophylactic measures For Healthy Population

COVID appropriate behavior and general protective measures advised by health authorities such as social distancing, using appropriate mask properly, hand washing and sanitization, vaccination etc. for Covid-19 must be advised. Patients should be advised to follow the advisory issued by ICMR on preventive dos and don'ts for mucormycosis (1-3)

Information for Management of Suspected and Diagnosed cases of Mucormycosis.

The common clinical features observed in Mucormycosis cases include Pain and redness around eyes and/or nose, Fever, Headache, Coughing, Shortness of breath, Bloody vomits, altered mental status.

Care giver and physicians should be watchful for Patients recovered from Covid-19 specially post hospitalized cases, prolonged ICU stay for Covid 19 or any other illness, with co-morbidities, uncontrolled diabetes mellitus, prolonged use of immune-suppressants like steroids. Considering this possibility, the patient(s) should observe evolving symptoms or signs but this watchfulness should not lead to undue anxiety.

Homoeopathy management

As a system with holistic approach, homoeopathy medicines may be selected based on the presenting signs and symptoms of each patient(4).Fungal infections are amenable to homoeopathic treatment. Various research studies undertaken on various fungi in-vitro model showed that homoeopathy medicine could prevent the growth of the fungus(5-8). Clinical studies have shown encouraging results on fungal infections (9-10). The medicines given here are suggestive based on their clinical use.

Symptomatic Homoeopathy management of Suspected and Diagnosed cases of Mucormycosis

| Stage/Condition | Clinical Presentation | Medicine | Dosage |
|---|--|---|--|
| Post-COVID-19 regimen for preventing opportunistic infections | --- | 1. Arsenicum album 200 | 4 globules twice daily for 3 days |
| | | 7 days after | 4 globules once |
| | | 2. Thuja occidentalis 1M | |
| | | 7 days after | 4 globules once |
| | | 3. Tuberculinum - 1M | |
| Suspected / diagnosed Mucormycosis | | | |
| Rhino-orbito-cerebral mucormycosis | Facial pain, headache, lethargy, visual loss, proptosis, and/or palatal ulcer, nasal discharge | Arsenicum album, Aurum metallicum, Cundurango, Fluoricum acidum, Sulphur iodatum, | The dose and repetition of the medicine to be determined by the treating physician |

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|----------------------------------|---|---|---|
| | (blackish/bloody), Blurred or double vision with pain. | Acid Benzoicum, Hippozaeninum, Kali iodatum, Kalium bichromicum, Mercurius solubilis, Nitricumacidum, Phosphorus, Secale cornutum | as per homoeopathic principles. |
| Pulmonary mucormycosis | Difficult breathing, cough, chest pain, pleural effusion, haemoptysis, worsening of respiratory symptoms | Acalypha indica, Arsenicum album, Crotalus horridus, Kali bichromicum, Sulphur iodatum, Acid Benzoicum, Lachesis mutus, Mercurius solubilis, Nitricum acidum, Phosphorus | The dose and repetition of the medicine to be determined by the treating physician as per homoeopathic principles. |
| Cutaneous mucormycosis | Necrotic scar surrounded by an erythematous and indurated region of skin. | Anthracinum, Arsenicum album, Sulphur iodatum, Acid Benzoicum, Lachesis mutus, Mezerium, Phosphorus, Secale cornutum, Sulphur | The dose and repetition of the medicine to be determined by the treating physician as per homoeopathic principles. |
| Gastrointestinal mucormycosis | Nonspecific abdominal pain and distention associated with nausea and vomiting, Fever and hematochezia | Arsenicum album, Crotalus horridus, Ipecacuanha, Sulphur iodatum, Acid Benzoicum, Lachesis mutus, Mercurius corrosivus, Phosphorus, Sulphur | The dose and repetition of the medicine to be determined by the treating physician as per homoeopathic principles. |
| Septicaemia | ---- | Pyrogen, Echinacea | The dose and repetition of the medicine to be determined by the treating physician |

| | | | |
|--|------|--|--|
| | | | as per homoeopathic principles. |
| Restorative purpose (may vary from case to case) | ---- | 1.Tissue salts 2.Avena sativa – Mother tincture. | The dose and repetition of the medicine to be determined by the treating physician as per homoeopathic principles. |

Note: Apart from these lists of medicines any other medicine and any other potency may be prescribed based on the symptom similarity in each case.

General Information

1. Monitor the sick person's symptoms regularly.
2. Ensure the sick person takes adequate rest and sleep and stays hydrated.
3. Limit the patient's movement around the house and minimize shared space. Ensure that the house, particularly shared spaces (e.g. kitchen, bathroom) are well ventilated and damp proof, with proper sunlight.
4. Maintain personal hygiene and use separate mask for each day.

Dietary Information

1. Food should be freshly prepared, and easily digestible. Avoid processed foods.
2. Avoid excessive intake of fats, oils, sugar and salt.

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Annexure

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