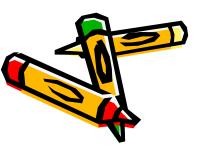




# The Curse of the Pharaoh: Aspergillus

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# **Discussion** points

- Spectrum of disease
- Life threatening issues
- Treatment



# Case

- 73 y o male, diabetic, h/o headaches, for the last few weeks. Went to different hospitals.
- Poorly controlled diabetes.
- Initial CT:

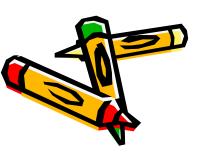


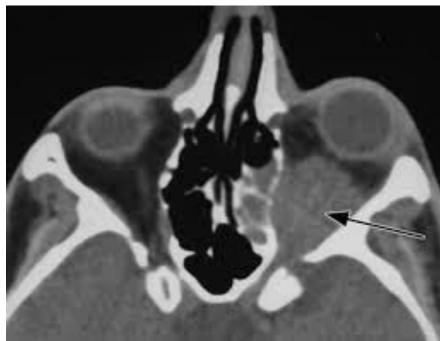
### 73 yo male, diabetic, came with headaches. Initial

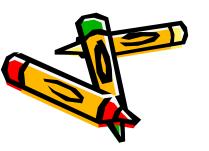


# History continued...

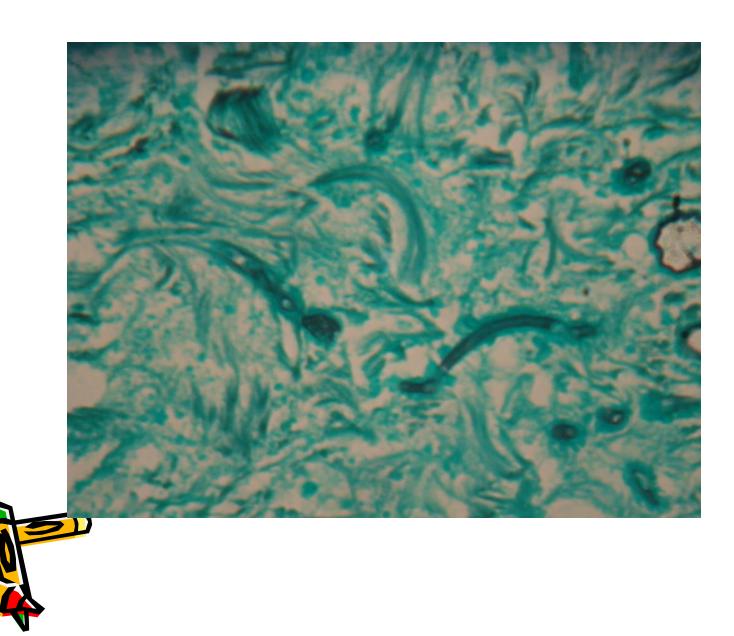
- Sent to see Infectious Diseases after recurrence of headache, proptosis
- Repeat imaging of the orbit showed:

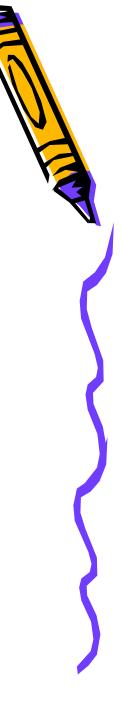












## **Risk Factors**

- Neutropenia: severe and prolonged:

   Chemotherapy for hematologic malignancies, MDS, aplastic anemia etc
   Allogeneic HSCT: cumulative incidence at 12 months: 2.3% to 3.9%. 0.5% in autologous
- Immunosuppression: GVHD- depends on severity and amount of immunosuppressants
- Solid organ transplant: Lung, heart-lung, liver
  - Colonisation
  - Late onset (> 3 months)-

inunosuppression to treat graft rejection

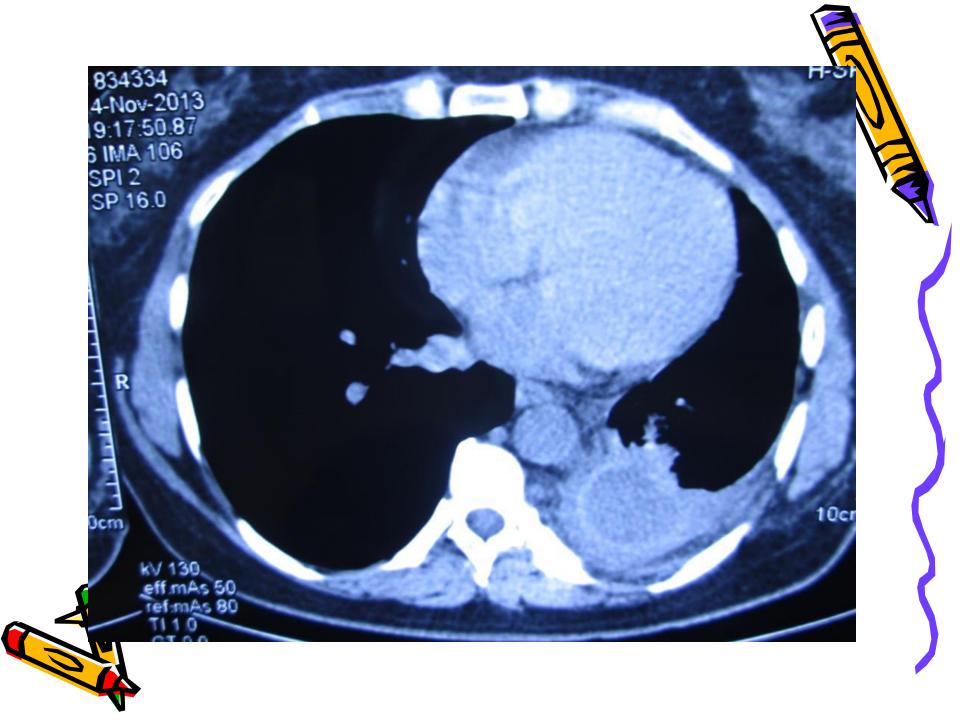
## The Others...

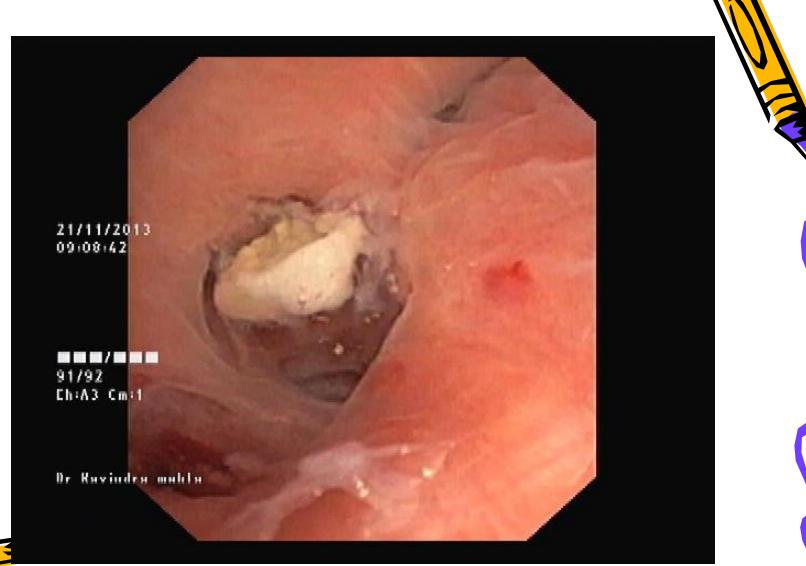
- High dose Steroid therapy:
- Defective NADH oxidase: CGD
- Mannose-binding lectin deficiency
- Preexisting lung disease- cavity
- Diabetes mellitus
- Advanced HIV
- · ICU
- Drug abusers- inhaling marihuana contaminated with spores, 'shooting up'



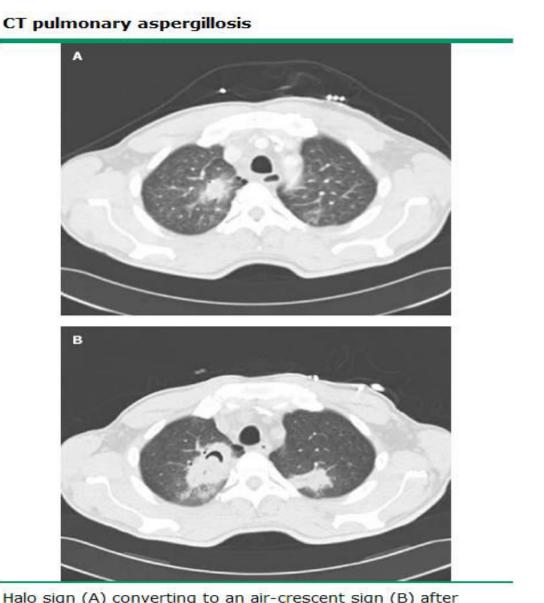
# Spectrum of disease

- Depends on the degree, duration and type of immunosuppression
- Usually, inhalation route (Sinopulmonary). Less commonly, GIT/skin
- Invasive Aspergillosis: Sinuses, Lungs.
- Extra Pulmonary: any organ
- Chronic necrotising and chronic cavitary pulmonary aspergillosis (semi invasive)
- ABPA: Allergic Bronchopulmonary







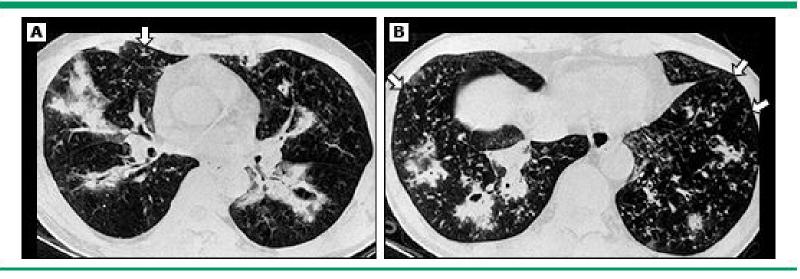




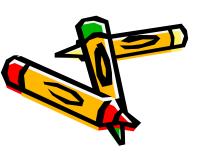
Halo sign (A) converting to an air-crescent sign (B) after neutrophil recovery. Reproduced with permission from: Maertens J, Meersseman W, Van Bleyenbergh P. New therapies for fungal pneumonia. Curr Opin Infect Dis 2009; 22:183. Copyright © 2009 Lippincott Williams & Wilkins.



#### Aspergillus bronchiolitis and bronchopneumonia

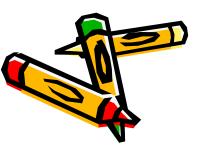


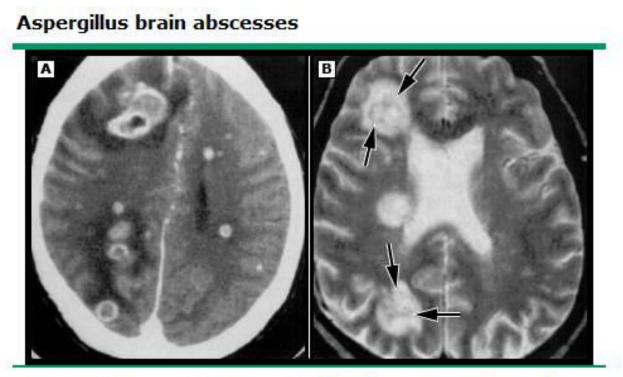
High-resolution computed tomography images (1.0-mm collimation) at the level of the right middle lobe bronchus (A) and liver dome (B) show patchy peribronchial consolidation, centrilobular nodules, and branching linear structures (arrows). Cavity formation is seen in both lower lobes. *Reproduced with permission from: Müller NL, Fraser RS, Lee KS, Johkoh T. Pulmonary infections. In: Diseases of the Lung, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, Philadelphia 2002. Copyright* © 2002 Lippincott Williams & Wilkins. <u>http://www.lww.com</u>



# Life threatening issues

- Does not respect tissue planes
- Angio-invasive
- Dissemination





44-year-old man with hairy-cell leukemia and biopsy-proved cerebral aspergillosis.

(A) CT scan obtained after injection of contrast material shows multiple ring-enhancing lesions with surrounding edema and mass effect.

(B) T2-weighted MR image (at slightly lower level than A) shows mutiple hypointense rings (arrows) with surrounding edema in right cerebral hemisphere. Rings are irregular and relatively poorly formed.

From: Ashdown BC, Tien RD, Felsberg GJ. Aspergillosis of the brain and paranasal sinuses in immunocompromised patients: CT and MR imaging findings. AJR Am J Roentgenol 1994; 162:155. Reprinted with permission from: the American Journal of Roentgenology.





#### Aspergillus sinusitis

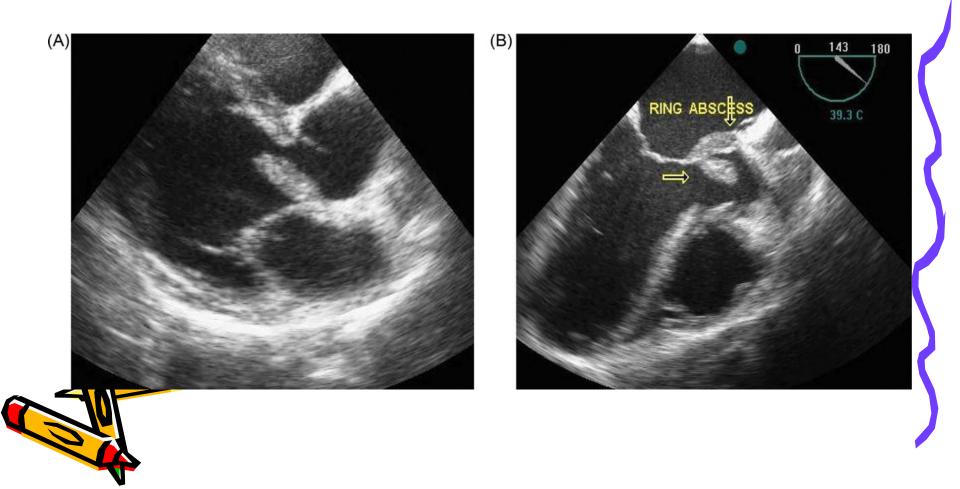


87-year-old man with diabetes mellitus and biopsy-proved aspergillosis of paranasal sinuses. Coronal T1-weighted MR image obtained after injection of contrast material shows abnormal soft tissue filling ethmoidal air cell complex, nasal cavity, and maxillary sinus. Note subfrontal intracranial extension with dural thickening and abnormal enhancement (arrows).

From: Ashdown BC, Tien RD, Felsberg GJ. Aspergillosis of the brain and paranasal sinuses in immunocompromised patients: CT and MR imaging findings. AJR Am J Roentgenol 1994; 162:155. Reprinted with permission from the American Journal of Roentgenology.



#### Aspergillus endocarditis after CABG



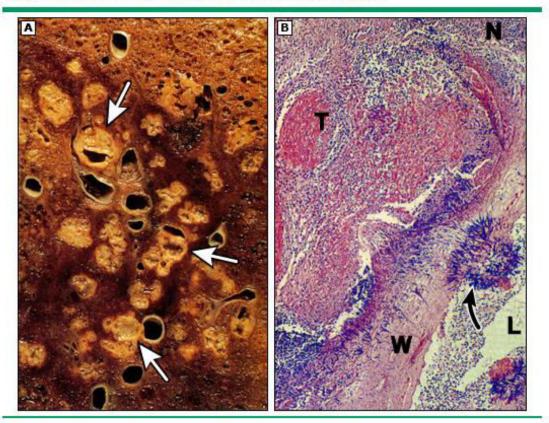
#### Aspergillus vertebral osteomyelitis







Aspergillus bronchopneumonia histopathology

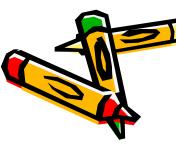


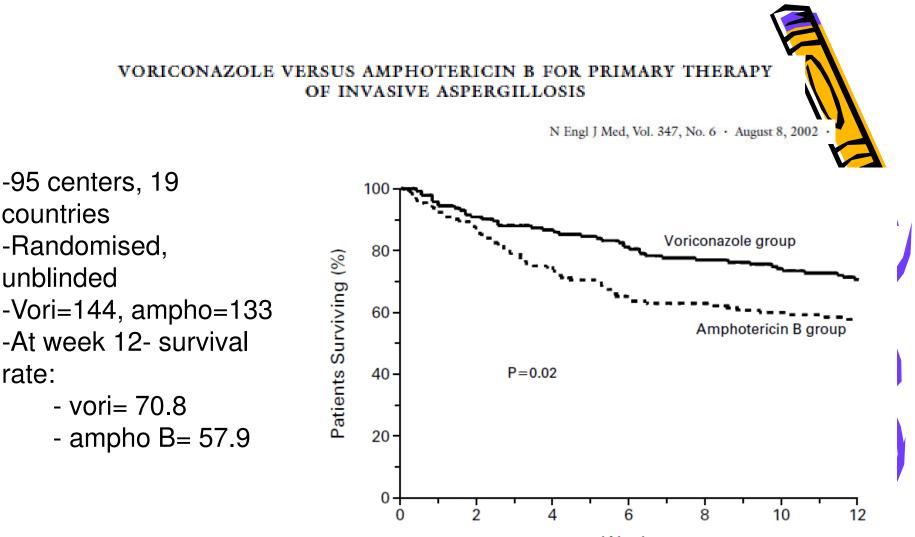
(Panel A) Magnified view of a slice of lower lobe shows multiple foci of necrosis, some clearly centered on airways (arrows) as indicated by their intimate association with pulmonary arteries. The lung parenchyma adjacent to the necrotic regions is hemorrhagic.

(Panel B) Photomicrograph shows small colonies of Aspergillus (arrow) within a bronchial lumen (L) and wall (W). Extension of fungus can also be seen into the adjacent pulmonary artery, which is partly occluded by thrombus (T). An infiltrate of neutrophils (N) is evident in the adjacent lung.

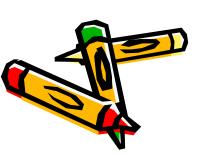
Reproduced with permission from: Müller NL, Fraser RS, Lee KS, Johkoh T. Pulmonary infections. In: Diseases of the Lung, Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, Philadelphia 2002. Copyright © 2002 Lippincott Williams & Wilkins. <u>http://www.lww.com</u>

ploDate





Weeks



countries

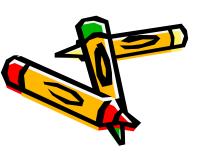
unblinded

rate:

-Randomised,

### Therapeutic strategies

- Empirical therapy: Liposomal amphotericin
- Invasive Aspergillosis: Voriconazole
   Watch for drug interactions
- Other azoles:
- Caspofungin (or other echinocandins): for salvage therapy
- Remember resistant species: A. terreus is resistant to ampho B



### Directed therapy for fungal infections: focus on aspergillosis

Journal of Antimicrobial Therapy. July 9, 2013

|  | cal signs<br>ection     | Clinical signs of infection<br>(fever, etc.) |                        | Specific radiological evidence of<br>disease (nodules±halo, cavitating<br>lesions) |                               | Microbiologically/histologically<br>documented disease |
|--|-------------------------|--|------------------------|--|-------------------------------|--|
|  |                         |  |                        |  | H CON ON ON ON ON ON ON ON ON |  |
| Biomarker<br>negative                  | Biomarker<br>positive   | Biomarker<br>negative                        | Biomarker<br>positive  | Biomarker<br>negative  | Biomarker positive            |  |
| EORTC/MSG criteria: no evidence of IFD |                         |  |                        | Possible IFD   | Probable IFD                  | Proven IFD   |
| Prophylaxis                            | Targeted<br>prophylaxis | Empirical therapy                            | Pre-emptive<br>therapy | Targeted therapy   |                               | Definitive therapy                                     |



## **Combination** Therapy

- Voriconazole with caspofungin (echinocandin)
- Ampho B with caspo
- Ampho B with voriconazole- antagonistic? Not recommended at present time.
- Immunomodulation
- Colony stimulating factors
- Surgery- source control

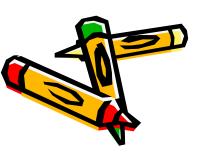


### Table 2. Recommended Dosages for Invasive Aspergillosis Treatment

| Agent  | Dosage   |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1st-Line Treatment   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Voriconazole   | IV: 6 mg/kg q12h on day 1, then 4 mg/kg q12h<br>Oral form: 200 mg q12h                           |  |  |  |  |  |
| Alternative Agents   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| L-AmB (primary option)   | 3-5 mg/kg/day IV   |  |  |  |  |  |
| ABLC   | 5 mg/kg/day IV   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Caspofungin  | 70 mg IV day 1, then 50 mg/day   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Micafungin   | 100-150 mg/day IV  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Posaconazole   | 200 mg 4 times/day po; after stabilization, 400 mg bid po  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Itraconazole   | IV: 200 mg q12h for 2 days, then 200 mg/day<br>Oral form: 600 mg/day for 3 days, then 400 mg/day |  |  |  |  |  |
| ABLC: amphotericin B lipid complex; L-AmB: liposomal amphotericin B.<br>Source: Reference 2. |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Prevention

- Prophylaxis with azoles (posaconazone)
- Infection Control: construction/renovation activities in the hospital, damp walls...



### Questions?

