

Today's Topic



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Yellow Fungus

Notes for civil services preparation



UPSC

General Studies

Yellow Fungus

Why in News

After black and white fungus, the recent case of yellow fungus has become a cause for concern.

Key Points

- About:
 - Yellow fungus, also called **mucor septic**, initially develops by the presence of **moulds** (a type of fungi) in the environment.
 - It **may be present** with unnecessary fatigue, rashes, burning sensation **on skin** etc.
 - Humidity levels below 30-40% can promote the growth of fungus.
 - It **may not start from the lungs but it invades internal organs of the body** and affects the entire functioning.
- Potential Causes:
 - Prolonged use of steroids, contaminated environment, uncontrolled diabetes, unhygienic habits, lesser immunity, comorbidities.
 - The treatment for **Covid-19** includes steroids and immunosuppressants that leave the body with weak immunity.
- Symptoms:
 - Weight loss, reduced appetite, lethargy are the **common symptoms** of yellow fungus infection.
 - If not detected in time, symptoms can become **more severe including pus leakage, sunken eyes, organ failure, slow healing of wounds and necrosis** (cells in the living tissues die prematurely).
- Treatment:
 - Till now the only **known treatment for yellow fungus is Amphotericin B injection**, which is an antifungal drug also being used to treat black fungus.
- Prevention:
 - Maintaining hygiene, not consuming stale food, keeping the humidity in the room in check, etc.

Black Fungus

- **Mucormycosis, previously known as zygomycosis** and sometimes termed as black fungus, is generally spread by breathing in, eating food contaminated by, or **getting spores of molds of the Mucorales type** in an open wound.

White Fungus

- White Fungus or **Candidiasis** is a fungal infection caused by a yeast (a type of fungus) called **Candida**.