Patients With COVID-19 and Fungal Infections Had High Mortality Rates

The number of patients hospitalized with fungal infections increased about 9% annually between 2019 and 2021, according to inpatient data from more than 1000 US hospitals.

Moreover, the mortality rate for people whose records indicated both fungal and SARS-CoV-2 infections during the same hospitalization was 48.5% compared with 12.3% for those who were hospitalized with a non–COVID-19–associated fungal infection. COVID-19–associated fungal infections that were caused by aspergillosis, invasive candidiasis, mucormycosis, and unspecified mycoses were tied to the highest proportions of deaths.

“Our findings emphasize the importance of maintaining a high index of clinical suspicion for fungal infections in patients at high risk, including those with COVID-19,” the researchers wrote in Emerging Infectious Diseases. – Emily Harris

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Note: Source references are available through embedded hyperlinks in the article text online.