

MGM Healthcare Chennai successfully treats COVID-19 patient for mucormycosis

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MGM Healthcare Chennai has announced that it has successfully conducted an emergency endoscopic trans-nasal orbital surgery to treat a 68-year-old female COVID-infected patient who got seriously affected with black fungus (mucormycosis).

The patient was being treated for COVID pneumonia with systemic steroids and oxygen supplementation for the past two weeks. She reported a persistent headache on her right side and blood-tinged nasal discharge along with drooping of right eyelid recently.

The patient was immunocompetent but had elevated blood sugar levels during the course of treatment. Radiological investigations revealed invasive fungal disease limited to the right naso-orbital region involving frontal and ethmoid sinuses.

“After a thorough surgical planning, a modified endoscopic transnasal surgical approach was adopted to reach the anatomical areas affected by the disease, explained Professor Dr Sanjeev Mohanty, Senior Consultant and Head, Institute of ENT, Head & Neck Surgery. He added, the transorbital surgery in this case entailed the use of multiple angled high-definition endoscopes and appropriate instruments which are important to obtain the required degree of precision and key to a successful outcome. In this case, time was of primary essence as black fungus (mucormycosis) had invaded the para nasal sinuses and orbit of the patient. Through this emergency endoscopic surgery, it helped to mitigate the spread of the deadly fungus and remove the dead tissues with a course of anti-fungal therapy for optimum cure simultaneously. MGM Healthcare used collective inputs from all allied clinical disciplines and relied on evidence based methodology to help this patient get back on her feet and go on to pursue a normal life.”

The painful symptoms experienced by the patient have been alleviated post-surgery and doctors have confirmed that her vision is intact along with the resolving of drooping eyelid (ptosis) of the right eye. She is being monitored continually and administered with anti-fungal therapy to prevent any relapse or recurrence during the post-COVID recovery period.