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From the desk of Editor- in-Chief.....

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While India was actively controlling the ongoing serious COVID-19 second wave, a serious fungal infection, mucormycosis has been increasingly found in COVID-19 recovered patients. Colloquially known as 'black fungus', mucormycosis commonly causes necrosis in the head and neck including the nose, paranasal sinuses, orbits, and facial bones, with possible intracranial spread.

Resection of maxilla due to tumors or any infection lead to facial disfigurement, impaired functions like speech due to hyper nasality, rumination, and a significant impacts on patients quality of life. Post Covid-19 sepsis is that which occurs after SARS-CoV-2 had a rampage in the human body. It leads to ciliary dysfunction, cytokine storm, thrombo-inflammation, microvascular coagulation, and eventual immune exhaustion. This cascade of events facilitates secondary bacterial and fungal infections, especially in critically ill patients subjected to invasive emergency procedures, mechanical ventilation, prolonged hospital stays, and breaches in asepsis. Further, corticosteroid treatment in these highly susceptible hosts and high fungal spore counts in the environment creates the perfect setting for mold infections.

The infection begins in the nose and paranasal sinuses due to the inhalation of fungal spores. This infection can spread to the orbital and intracranial structures by direct invasion or through the blood vessels. The fungus invades the arteries leading to thrombosis that subsequently cause necrosis of hard and soft tissues. Early diagnosis and treatment can reduce the mortality and morbidity of this lethal fungal infection. Treatment principles may include antifungal agents along with surgical debridement or resection.

Prosthodontic rehabilitation of mucormycosis is the most practical, convenient, and cost effective treatment mode and the added advantage of removing prosthesis and evaluating the infected site efficiently. Prosthetic rehabilitation have improved the patient's quality of life and confidence.

Your's:

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