

FUNGAL DISEASE AWARENESS WEEK

THINK FUNGUS



WHY FUNGAL DISEASE AWARENESS IS IMPORTANT

1. THEY'RE INFECTIOUS

Fungal diseases are infectious — and if not caught and treated early — can be life-threatening. Millions of people around the world die each year because their conditions remain undiagnosed.

2. IT'S A COMPLEX DISEASE

There are many types of fungal diseases, so it's important for the public and medical professionals to be educated about treatments. Fungal Disease Awareness Week seeks to provide the latest information and research so the condition can be diagnosed and treated properly.

3. NO ONE IS IMMUNE

Since fungal diseases are often caused by fungi in the environment, it doesn't matter where you're from or where you live; everyone is susceptible. While most fungi are harmless, some can be deadly. Education is key to recognising if one may have a fungal disease.



WHAT CAUSES FUNGAL DISEASES?

Fungal diseases are often caused by fungi that are common in the environment. Most fungi are not dangerous, but some types can be harmful to health.

Mild fungal skin diseases can look like a rash and are very common. Fungal diseases in the lungs are often similar to other illnesses such as the flu or tuberculosis.

WHO GETS FUNGAL DISEASE?

Anyone can get a fungal infection but fungal infection can be extremely serious particularly for those with compromised immune systems, even life-threatening.



People living with HIV; cancer patients; people who are admitted to hospital; people who are critically ill after trauma or surgery; and premature babies are among those most at risk.



THINK FUNGUS

A key clue to when a sick person may have a fungal disease is that he or she is being treated with medicine for another type of infection but does not get better.

We encourage healthcare providers and patients to “Think Fungus” when symptoms of infection do not get better with treatment