Survival of rhino-orbital-cerebral mucormycosis in SARS-COV-

C. Lädrach[1], Martin Wartenberg[2], S. Zimmerli[3], Lukas Anschuetz[1], S. Bohlen[4], J. Ebner[5], C. M. F. de Gouyon Matignon de Pontouraude[6], Marco Caversaccio[1], and Franca Wagner[7]

[1]Inselspital Universitatsspital Bern Universitatsklinik fur Hals- Nasen- und Ohrenkrankheiten Kopf- und Halschirurgie
[2]Universitat Bern Institut fur Pathologie
[3]Inselspital Universitatsspital Bern Universitatsklinik fur Infektiologie
[4]Inselspital Universitatsspital Bern Universitares Notfallzentrum Erwachsene
[5]Inselspital Bern University Hospital
[6]Inselspital Universitatsspital Bern Universitatsklinik fur Augenheilkunde
[7]Inselspital Universitatsspital Bern Universitatsinstitut fur Diagnostische und Interventionelle Neuroradiologie

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Abstract

Rhino-orbital-cerebral mucormycosis (ROCM) is a rare angioinvasive fungal infection known to be associated with high morbidity and over 50% mortality and has increased lately due to increasing predisposing immunocompromising comorbidities as well as COVID-19. In addition to the common acute disease progression, chronic less aggressive courses have been described less often. In this paper we report two cases – a 75-year-old woman with diabetes and a 39-year-old man with recurrent diabetic ketoacidosis. Both presented initially with acute sinonasal symptoms, were positive for SARS-COV-2 and later diagnosed with acute ROCM. Both underwent mutilating surgical therapy as well as high administered dose Amphotericin B and long term continuous antifungal therapy. Patient 1 showed stable symptoms with radiographically increasing disease and died of urosepsis 5 months after first surgery. Patient 2 was first lost to follow-up after repatriation to his home country and 1 year later sent us a holiday picture of himself, having recovered from the disease.

Key words:

Rhino-orbital-cerebral mucormycosis, mucormycosis, Amphotericin-B, COVID-19, invasive fungal infection