

What is Blastomycosis?

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About Blastomycosis:

- It is an infection caused by a **fungus** of the **genus Blastomyces**.
- It is found **in moist soil and decomposing wood** and leaves in the mid-western, south-central and south-eastern states of the US.
- **Transmission:**
 - The microscopic spores from the fungus can get dispersed in the air and travel freely.
 - Human beings can contract blastomycosis **by inhaling the spores**.
 - It is **not contagious between animals and people** through the air.
- The symptoms of blastomycosis in animals are similar to the symptoms in humans.
- **Symptoms:** Fever, Cough, Breathing difficulty and muscle aches etc.
- **Treatment:** Itraconazole is a type of antifungal medication that is typically used to treat mild to moderate blastomycosis.

Q1) What are Fungi?

Fungi are a diverse group of organisms that include yeasts, molds, and mushrooms. They are a separate kingdom of living things, distinct from plants, animals, and bacteria.

Source: [What we know about Blastomyces, the fungus that killed 1 & infected 100 at a Michigan paper mill](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/what-is-blastomycosis/>

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