

Mucormycoses caused by *Lichtheimia* species.

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Abstract

Mucormycoses are life-threatening infections with fungi from the order Mucorales (Mucoromycotina). Although mucormycoses are uncommon compared to other fungal infections, e.g. aspergillosis and candidiasis, the number of cases is increasing especially in immunocompromised patients. *Lichtheimia* (formerly *Absidia*) species represent the second to third most common cause of mucormycoses in Europe. This mini review presents current knowledge about taxonomy and clinical relevance of *Lichtheimia* species. In addition, clinical presentation and risk factors will be discussed. Proper animal infection models are essential for the understanding of the pathogenesis and the identification of virulence factors of fungal pathogens. To date, several animal models have been used to study *Lichtheimia* infection. A brief overview of the different models and the main conclusions from the infection experiments is summarised in this review.

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Leibniz-HKI-Autor*innen



Ilse Denise Jacobsen

[Details](#)



Volker Schwartze

[Details](#)

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