

# Cerebral Chromoblastomycosis

## Cerebral Chromoblastomycosis: A Unique Presentation of Dematiaceous Fungal Infection in an Immunocompromised Patient

In a case report – culture/histopathology confirmed. Norton Stephen et al. from AIIMS Madurai (Madurai), JIPMER Puducherry (Puducherry), Neurosurgery JIPMER Puducherry. published in [Annals of Indian Academy of Neurology](#). to report an unusual intracranial dematiaceous [fungal infection](#) (“cerebral chromoblastomycosis”) in an immunocompromised host. Demonstrates that dematiaceous fungi can invade the CNS in immunosuppressed patients, presenting as [brain abscesses](#); underscoring need for high suspicion, tissue diagnosis, and tailored [antifungal therapy](#) <sup>1</sup>.

### Critical Review

#### 1. Novelty & Rigor:

1. Rare case: cerebral infection by pigmented dematiaceous fungus is exceedingly uncommon. Prior reports mostly in immunocompetent individuals :contentReference[oaicite:0]{index=0}.
2. Methodology strong: pathology plus culture confirmation; however, imaging, antifungal regimen, and clinical course not detailed in provided abstract.

#### 2. Limitations:

1. Lack of comprehensive clinical data: dose/duration of therapy, immune status specifics (CD4, neutrophils), imaging, follow-up.
2. Single-patient report: low evidence level, cannot generalize treatment outcomes or prognosis.

#### 3. Contextualization:

1. Builds on rare prior cases from India and abroad :contentReference[oaicite:1]{index=1}.
2. Adds by highlighting immunocompromise as a risk—less emphasized previously.

#### 4. Take-home for neurosurgeon:

1. In immunocompromised patients with intracranial abscesses, include dematiaceous fungi in differential.
2. Early biopsy/culture and combined medical-surgical management critical; delayed diagnosis likely worsens outcome.

#### 5. Verdict:

1. Despite lacking granularity, this well-documented rare case merits attention.
2. Score: **6/10** (novelty strong, clinical details modest, limited generalizability).

## Bottom Line for Practicing Neurosurgeon

Consider dematiaceous fungal abscesses (chromoblastomycosis/phaeohyphomycosis) in immunosuppressed patients with brain lesions; surgical biopsy and pathogen-directed antifungal therapy are essential.

## Categories

neurosurgery\_case\_reports, fungal\_neurosurgery, CNS\_infections

## Tags

chromoblastomycosis, dematiaceous\_fungi, brain\_abscess, immunocompromised, case\_report, invasive\_mycosis

1)

Stephen N, Ravi S, Hanuman SB, Negi VS, Gopalakrishnan MS. Cerebral Chromoblastomycosis: A Unique [Presentation](#) of Dematiaceous [Fungal Infection](#) in an Immunocompromised Patient. Ann Indian Acad Neurol. 2025 Jul 7. doi: 10.4103/aian.aian\_747\_24. Epub ahead of print. PMID: 40622678.

From:  
<https://neurosurgerywiki.com/wiki/> - **Neurosurgery Wiki**

Permanent link:  
[https://neurosurgerywiki.com/wiki/doku.php?id=cerebral\\_chromoblastomycosis](https://neurosurgerywiki.com/wiki/doku.php?id=cerebral_chromoblastomycosis)

Last update: **2025/07/07 22:01**

