

Blastomycosis *Fast Facts*



Wisconsin Department of Health Services
Division of Public Health

Blastomycosis (or “Blasto”) is an infection caused by the fungus *Blastomyces dermatitidis*

Illness can occur 2 – 15 weeks after breathing in the fungal spores

Symptoms can include cough, fever, chills, muscle aches, joint pain, and chest pain

Infection can spread to other parts of the body such as skin or bones

Blasto is not spread from person to person

The fungus lives in moist soil and decaying wood and leaves

Blasto is treatable with antifungal medications

People who smoke, have lung disease, or have weakened immune systems are more likely to become ill

Ill individuals concerned about Blasto should visit their doctor

Learn more at: <http://www.cdc.gov/fungal/diseases/blastomycosis/>