

# OTOMYCOSIS

- Dr.ASLAM CHAUDHRY  
Professor OF ENT  
BBH,RWP...

# Introduction:

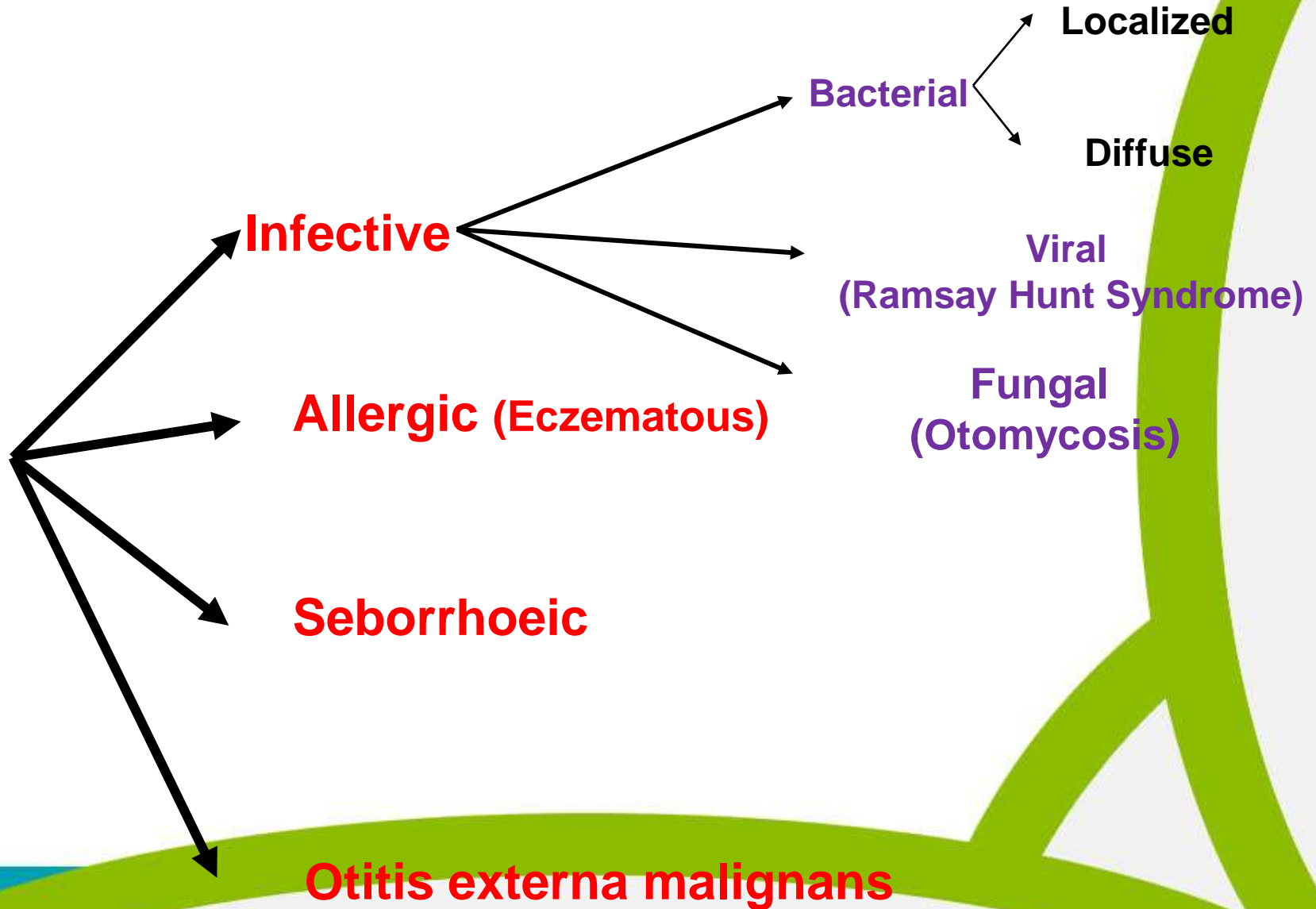
## ❖ Case Scenario:

- 30 years old, male patient, living in rawalpindi
- He complains **itching** and pain in Rt. ear .
- There is **whitish** aural debris with **black spots** in his ear
- He uses **antibiotics ear drops** for long time.

**What is provisional diagnosis for this patient ?**

# Otitis Externa

## Types



# Otomycosis:

## ❖ **Definition :**

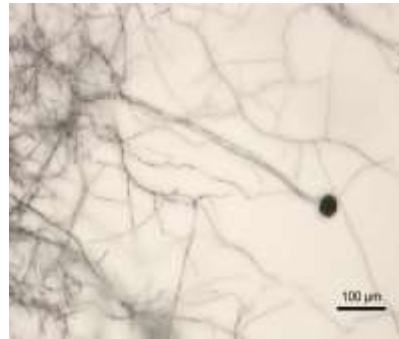
- **Otomycosis is** fungal infection of the skin lining of the external canal .
- **The infection may be either subacute or acute**
- **It is more common in the tropical countries**

# Cont.

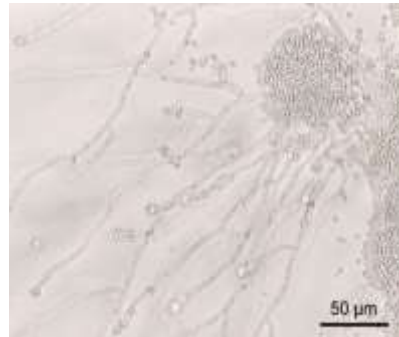
## ❖ AETIOLOGY:

✓ Causative organisms:

1) *Aspergillus niger*



2) *Candida albicans*



# Cont.

## ❖ Predisposing Factors:

### 1) Humidity

- The ear canal can be easily infected because it is **dark** and **warm**, so bacteria or fungus may grow there, because of high **humidity and moisture**.
- This occurs more in residents of very **hot, humid** environments .
- This occurs more in those who wear head cover in some part of the world.

### 2) Immunocompromised patient .

### 3) Prolonged use of local antibiotics ear drops.

# Cont.



## 4) Swimmers ear :

- Otomycosis most often occurs when too much water gets in the ear canal such as after **swimming** or **showering in chlorinated water**.
- It is also called **Swimmers ear** .
- It is easier for germs and fungus to grow when water removes the protective ear wax.

## 5) The cleaning:

Too much cleaning your ears can have the same effect.





# Cont.

## ❖ **Symptoms :**

### 1) **Itching: ( main symptom )**

intolerable urge to clean the ear, often cause further trauma to the ear canal.

2) **Pain**, discomfort, feeling the ear blocked, and mild discharge are also noted.

### 3) **Hearing loss:**

when the fungus mass occludes the external canal.

# Cont.

## ❖ Signs :

### ➤ In Speculum examination:

**The lumen of the external canal is**

- ✓ Erythema
- ✓ Mild edema
- ✓ Contain white, gray or black fungal debris.



# Otomycosis: Signs

- Canal erythema
- Mild edema
- White, gray or black fungal debris





# Cont.

Otomycosis: *Aspergillus niger*





# Cont.

Otomycosis: *Aspergillus niger*





# Cont.

## Otomycosis: *Candida albicans*



# Cont.

## ❖ **Treatment:**

➤ Thorough **cleaning** and **drying** of canal by:

Suction

OR

Ear wash.

➤ Topical anti-fungals :

**Clotrimazole** and **Nystatin** ear drops have been shown to be effective in many cases.

**How to prevent Fungus in the ear ?**



# Cont.

## 1) Natural Defenses :

- It's important to keep the ear canal's natural defenses against infection working well.
- So; we should leave some amount of ear wax in the canal, this has an antifungal property.

## 2) Drying :

- After swimming or showering, use a towel to dry your ears well.
- Turn your head to each side and pull the earlobe in different directions to help water run out.

# Cont.

3) After swimming in common pool, put few drops of acetic acid ear drops or any other **antifungal ear drops**.



4) Use **ear plugs**, when swimming.

