

## Allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis

Allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis (ABPA) is a disease of the respiratory tract that occurs in response to the presence of a fungus called *Aspergillus*.

There are many different types of *Aspergillus*, but *Aspergillus fumigatus* is the most common to cause disease in humans.

Following the inhalation of *Aspergillus* spores the following may occur:

<b>Normal lungs</b>	no response
<b>Immunocompromised</b>	invasive response (eg invasive pulmonary aspergillosis, necrotising aspergillosis). Generally only occurs in people with very significant problems of their immune system.
<b>Structural lung abnormality</b>	colonisation of abnormal lung (eg aspergiloma). This disease usually occurs when the lung structure is not normal, such as a cavity in the lung from a previous severe or destructive infection such as tuberculosis.
<b>Allergic</b>	allergic disease (eg asthma worsening, ABPA). This form of aspergillus-related disease occurs in individuals who are 'atopic' or prone to allergy, particularly those with asthma

For further information - <http://lungfoundation.com.au/understanding-allergic-bronchopulmonary-aspergillosis-abpa/>