A deadly dimorph: what you need to know about Blastomyces spp.

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Please, no, say it isn't so!

There's a fungus called Blasto that's found in the soil, once it enters the body it causes turmoil. The good news is, if caught in time, the healing outcome is sublime! But if you wait too long or stop treatment too soon, even healthy bodies are not immune! With their noses frequently close to the ground, it's much more often picked up by the Hound. Even though this may make you feel blue, the story that follows is completely TRUE:

We thought we had the problem beaten, he seemed fine five months after he was treated. But Buddy was now coughing like he had a hair ball in his throat,

Fungal infection diagnosed; a prescription the vet wrote. The difficult treatment was hard to bear, to watch our boy suffer, wishing it was just some hair! With that prescription we saw him improve, happy watching Buddy getting back in the groove. The vet decided to stop the medication, the X-ray's looked promising...was it cause for celebration?

Then Buddy started limping, his toe swollen and sore, again to the vet, to examine and explore. They told us it was just a bacterial infection, and so suggested, antibiotics with amputation. But, we wanted to be sure it wasn't a recurrence, so we asked if a biopsy could be done, for reassurance. To rule out the previous diagnosis, of the deadly fungal disease: Blastomycosis. Sadly, our nightmare hasn't ended; more antifungals are recommended. This time we will make sure it's gone...Please Buddy, just hang on...

You can read this pamphlet for more information...knowledge is awareness for protection and prevention!