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Address for correspondence: Syed Faisal Mahmood, Department of Medicine, Aga Khan University Hospital, Karachi 75800, Pakistan; email: faisal.mahmood@aku.edu

etymologia

Naegleria fowleri

[nə'gliəriə fau(ə)l'ər-i]

From F.P.O. Nägler, an early 20th century bacteriologist, and Malcolm Fowler, an Australian physician. In 1912, A. Alexeieff proposed a new genus for questionable amoeboid forms, which he named Nägleria in honor of Nägler's work in identifying amoebae that pass through a biflagellate stage. Fifty-three years later, a report from Australia described human meningoencephalitis caused by an amebo-flagellate, later recognized as a member of *Naegleria*. In 1970, the pathogen was designated *Naegleria fowleri* after Fowler, who obtained one of the first isolates from human brain tissue.

Source: Alexeieff A. Sur less caractères cytologiques et la systématique des amibes du groupe limax (*Naegleria* nov gen et *Hartmannia* nov. gen) et des amibes parasites des vertèbres (*Proctamoeba* nov. gen). *Bull de la Soc Zool de France*. 1912; 37:55; Calkins GN. Genera and species of amoeba. In: *Transactions of the Fifteenth International Congress on Hygiene and Demography*, Vol. II, Washington, September 23-28, 1912. Washington: General Printing Office; 1913; Fowler M, Carter RF. Acute pyogenic meningitis probably due to *Acanthamoeba* sp.: a preliminary report. *BMJ*. 1965;2:740-2. DOI: 10.1136/bmj.2.5464.734-a; Marciano-Cabral F. Biology of *Naegleria* spp. *Microbiol Rev*. 1998;52:114-33.

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