
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 fauə(ə)rəriə]

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.