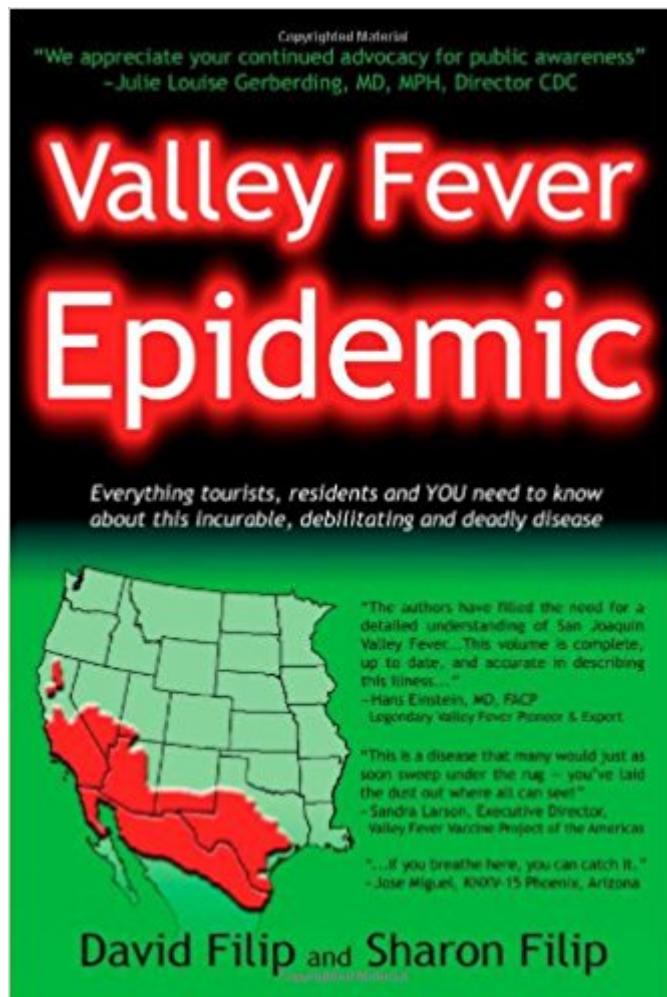


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# Valley Fever Epidemic



## **Synopsis**

Valley Fever Epidemic is the first and only comprehensive, complete, and up-to-date book written for the lay person on the subject of coccidioidomycosis, commonly known as Valley Fever. It is easy to read and understand and features detailed in-depth information on the disease's symptoms, diagnosis, testing, drugs and treatment, risk factors, and more. This book also includes maps and statistics, frequently asked questions, what you need to know before you see a doctor, how to help boost your immune system, and stories that people with Valley Fever sent to the authors at [www.valleyfeversurvivor.com](http://www.valleyfeversurvivor.com). The chapter on how Valley Fever affects animals contains stories from pet owners as well. In addition, this book has a medical glossary of over 465 words with definitions that translate all the technical medical jargon into plain English. Although this book has been written for the lay person, even medical professionals will find it enlightening. It is backed by hundreds of medical journal citations and has been reviewed by several eminent Valley Fever doctors and other professionals. If you have ever lived in, visited or passed through Arizona, California, Nevada, Texas, New Mexico, Utah, Mexico or other risk areas, the detailed information provided in this book is especially important for you to know. If you are a resident or are considering moving to any of the states where this fungus lives and thrives, it is vital that you learn what to do if you contract Valley Fever. The knowledge you gain from Valley Fever Epidemic may save you or a loved one from unnecessary suffering.

## **Book Information**

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## Customer Reviews

"I am overwhelmed and thrilled that someone has FINALLY written a book about Valley Fever...I found the book to be extremely enlightening, easy to read and easy to understand. More importantly, this book has vindicated me and many others afflicted with Coccidioidomycosis...Had this book been available when I was first diagnosed, it would not have taken me over a year, and several doctors, and many tests, to finally find the right doctor." -- Honey De Serre Editor, The Bugler & The Sentinel Publications of the Jewish War Veterans (JWV) of the USA "Thank you for presenting this remarkable compilation of facts and personal stories about Valley Fever. This is a disease that many would just as soon sweep under the rug-you've laid the dust out where all can see!" -- Sandra Larson Executive Director, Valley Fever Americas Foundation and the Valley Fever Vaccine Project of the Americas: A Rotary District 5240 Project "The authors have filled a need for a detailed understanding of San Joaquin Valley Fever (Coccidioidomycosis)...This volume is complete, up to date and accurate in describing this illness..." -- Hans Einstein, MD, FACP World's Foremost Valley Fever Expert and Treatment Pioneer Bakersfield, California "This book is a layman's comprehensive review of the nature and treatment of Valley Fever. It provides the reader with an understanding of the endemic regions of the disease, factors which contribute to the incidence of Valley Fever in humans and pets, and symptoms of the respiratory infection...A particularly appealing section of the book is devoted to personal accounts of individuals who survived infection with the Valley Fever pathogen. Many of these stories will be an inspiration to victims of the disease." -- Garry T. Cole, PhD Professor of Biology Margaret Batts Tobin Endowed Chair Department of Biology, University of Texas at San Antonio World Leading Valley Fever Vaccine Researcher "This is a valuable, well researched book and I would highly recommend it for patients, their family members, endemic area residents, and tourists." -- Dr. Craig M. Rundbaken, DO, FCCP, FACOI Pulmonary/Valley Fever Clinic Sun City West, Arizona

Hey all, Daniel R. Treccia here, son of Catherine Treccia. It just happens that my mom came across this book as a regular customer as I was struggling to recover from the worst surgery I have ever had. I had experience with quite a few orthopedic surgeries, and they were painful, but nothing close to what VF did to my lungs (cavity, hemoptysis "blood cough", fungal and bacterial pneumonia!)... So part of my lung was removed and I didn't know a thing about fungal pneumonia or VF until the lab results came back on my actual piece of lung that was removed. I hadn't been to Arizona since 2013, and when I even lived there in 2007 - I had not heard much about "Valley Fever"... turns out, not many of my doctors in Illinois were too familiar either. Even my infectious disease department at

NORTHWESTERN Medicine had to get up to date with the facts. That being said, my surgeon, ID doc, and nurses at the hospital saved my life. They got rid of the problem. But the people who are RESPONSIBLE for INFORMING me about the battle I was about to have for the next year (surgery was 12/28/15) were David and Sharon Filip. Coincidentally, a mother and son, who put their research out there for people like me who needed more than an anti-fungal prescription and a partial lung resection to live their normal life! I did some great things physically I would have never imagined, and I also was prepared for the highs and the lows - because of this book. Because of this writing, I was prepared with not only a diet but effective research on how to boost the immune system better to fight off fungal diseases! And why these diseases are misdiagnosed and have no cure. It's all here. Most importantly, I still live by this book's guidelines today, a year and two days out of surgery. It's been such a rough road, but without the book and Facebook group created by these two fine people, I would not have had any of the aforementioned "highs" and I would still be clueless about the long term solution. If you live by this book and are your own advocate with your doctors, you will not suffer nearly as much from this incurable disease. You may even find some peace and strength in the meantime, much like I did - because of THIS BOOK. Best, Daniel R. Treccia

It's nearly inconceivable that there is a disease, that geographically only has a small endemic area, and yet is so deadly that it is regulated along with Anthrax and other biological weapons as a select agent in the Public Health Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002. I believe that demands our attention, and yet Coccidioides, more commonly known as Valley Fever, is one of the most misunderstood diseases on the planet, by both patients AND doctors. David Filip and Sharon Filip, the authors of Valley Fever Epidemic, have given those who suffer, and those who treat Valley Fever the guide to understanding how to detect, ways to treat, the healthiest diet, how to talk to your doctor, and so much more in this easy to understand text. Having been diagnosed with Valley Fever myself two months ago (after being treated for pneumonia for 4 months) I understand the importance of early detection. Being our own advocate and knowing often, or mostly, that doctors don't think to test for Valley Fever. If you, or someone you care about has Valley Fever, you simply must have this book, you will not find this information anywhere else, and you will need that information. Sending kindest intentions to all who have begun their own journey with Valley Fever.

I was diagnosed 2 years ago with a disseminated version of Coccidiomycosis in my liver, kidneys,

intestines and joints that put me in the hospital. 4 of our dogs were diagnosed with Coccidioides as well (3 severe disseminated versions and 1 pulmonary) I almost died and one of our dogs did die before a correct diagnosis was made. In the intervening two years, two of our dogs and I have all had nasty reactivations of the coccidioides despite having left the endemic area of deep West Texas we loved - where we contracted this fungus. We are 300 miles from the nearest confirmed fungal zone - no cure and no promise that this will not reactivate again in the future. Make no mistake... this minuscule fungal spore can kill you and it will darn sure change your life in ways you cannot predict or prepare for. After all.... Coccidioides Immitis and Coccidioides Parasitum are considered bio terrorism threats to only be handled in Level 3 or 4 Bio-hazard labs. "Valley Fever Epidemic" is the only book on this disease out there of any substance. It contains real information and more importantly, it's CURRENT information. The facts and info in the book are well researched and written in language that everyone should be able to understand, digest and remember. I have spent two years educating doctor after doctor and multiple veterinarians about Coccidioides - from symptoms to what titer numbers to look out for, and suggested treatment plans from other doctors familiar with Valley Fever. FINALLY there is a single book that I can pass out and share with family, friends who don't have a clue why I feel like dirt 20 days out of 30, medical providers, and pharmacists who always think the length of the prescriptions are 6 months too long and must be a typo!\*\*\*\*\* UPDATE NOVEMBER 2015 \*\*\*\*\*I have purchased several copies of this excellent book over the years, there is still nothing else out there with more or better information about this devastating disease. It's been almost ten years since I was infected and I have now lost part of the vision in one eye and I have some permanent damage in several fingers that has left the joints enlarged and twisted. I have learned to just take this book with me to every doctor - most have never experienced a patient with disseminated valley fever and they truly have no clue what to do. If you or a loved one is sick, sadly, it's up to you to educate yourself and your medical team.

David & Sharon are very knowledgeable on Valley Fever. Between their book & support group, I learned what I needed to fight this awful disease. Which is critical. The Drs were misdiagnosing & prescribing the wrong meds, which were making me sicker. Thanks to this book & the support group, I learned what I need to do to live & function with this disease.

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