

# Introduction to Medical Mycology

## Magnitude of the problem

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Radboudumc, Nijmegen, The Netherlands



# Disclosures

Consultancy, speakerfee, grants

Astellas, Basilea, Gilead, Merck

# The Fungal kingdom



# CLASSIFICATION OF FUNGI

**MOULDS**

**aseptate hyphae**

**Mucormycetes**  
*Rhizopus*  
*Mucor*

**septate hyphae**

**YEASTS**

*Candida*  
*Trichosporon*  
*Cryptococcus*  
*Rhodotorula*

**Dimorphic**

*Histoplasma*  
*Blastomyces*  
*Coccidioides*  
*Penicillium*

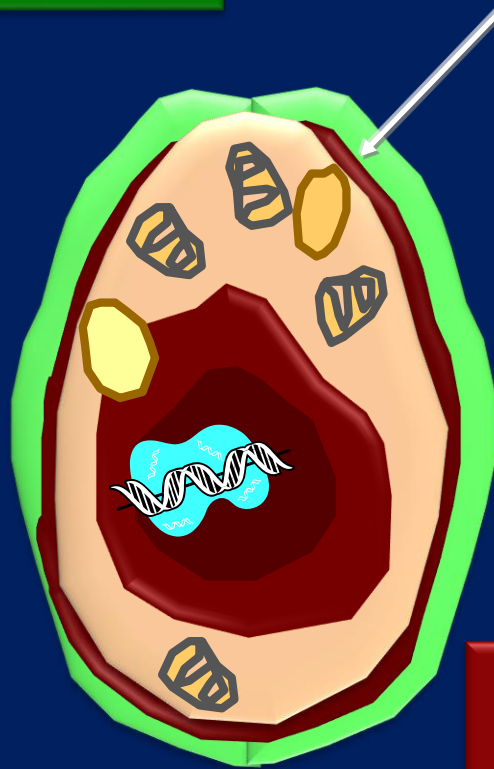
**Aspergillus**  
*Scedosporium*  
*Fusarium*

**Dermatophytes**  
*Trichophyton*  
*Microsporon*

# FUNGUS : PLANT OR ANIMAL?

**NO CHLOROPHYL!**

cell membrane  
-ergosterol



cell wall  
-chitin  
-mannoproteins  
- $\beta$ -glucan

eukaryotic

**FOR GROWTH CARBON  
FROM ORGANIC MATERIAL  
IS NEEDED**

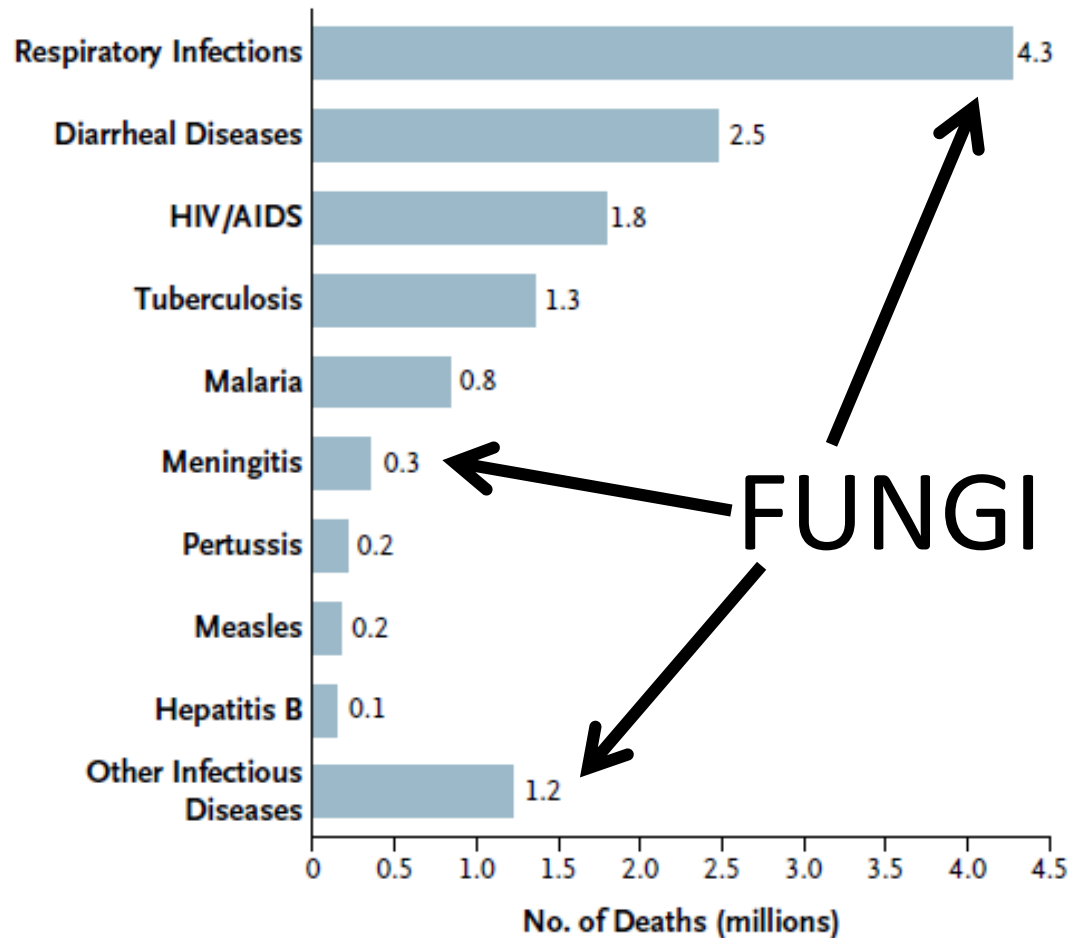


# THE DIFFERENCE

**YEAST**



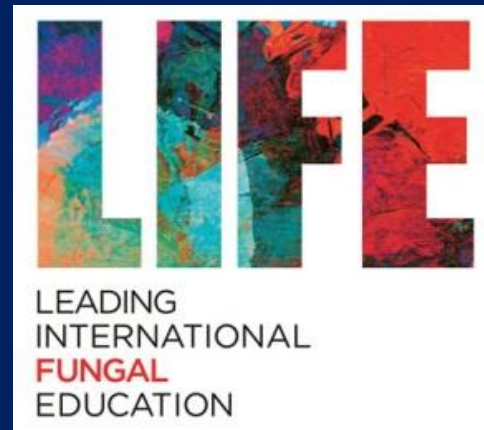
**MOULD**



**Figure 1. Leading Causes of Global Deaths from Infectious Diseases.**

Of an estimated 58.8 million annual deaths worldwide, approximately 15.0 million (25.5%) are believed to be caused by infectious diseases. Cause-specific mortality estimates are provided by the World Health Organization.<sup>43,44</sup> The data do not include deaths from secondary infectious causes, such as rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease, liver cancer and cirrhosis, or other chronic diseases.

**FUNGI ?**



<http://www.life-worldwide.org/awareness-advocacy/>

**N Engl J Med 2012;366:454-61.**

# Hidden Killers: Human Fungal Infections

Gordon D. Brown,<sup>1\*</sup> David W. Denning,<sup>2\*</sup> Neil A. R. Gow,<sup>1\*</sup> Stuart M. Levitz,<sup>3\*</sup>  
Mihai G. Netea,<sup>4\*</sup> Theodore C. White<sup>5\*</sup>

Table 1. Statistics of the 10 most significant invasive fungal infections.

Disease (most common species)	Location	Estimated life-threatening infections/ year at that location*	Mortality rates (% in infected populations)*
Opportunistic invasive mycoses			
Aspergillosis ( <i>Aspergillus fumigatus</i> )	Worldwide	>200,000	30–95
Candidiasis ( <i>Candida albicans</i> )	Worldwide	>400,000	46–75
Cryptococcosis ( <i>Cryptococcus neoformans</i> )	Worldwide	>1,000,000	20–70
Mucormycosis ( <i>Rhizopus oryzae</i> )	Worldwide	>10,000	30–90
Pneumocystis ( <i>Pneumocystis jirovecii</i> )	Worldwide	>400,000	20–80
Endemic dimorphic mycoses*†			
Blastomycosis ( <i>Blastomyces dermatitidis</i> )	Midwestern and Atlantic United States	~3,000	<2–68
Coccidioidomycosis ( <i>Coccidioides immitis</i> )	Southwestern United States	~25,000	<1–70
Histoplasmosis ( <i>Histoplasma capsulatum</i> )	Midwestern United States	~25,000	28–50
Paracoccidioidomycosis ( <i>Paracoccidioides brasiliensis</i> )	Brazil	~4,000	5–27
Penicilliosis ( <i>Penicillium marneffeii</i> )	Southeast Asia	>8,000	2–75



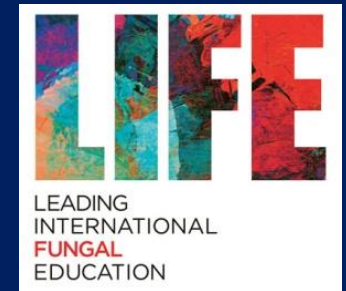
# IMPACT OF FUNGAL INFECTIONS: DEATHS

Cryptococcal meningitis  
> 600,000 deaths annually.

Invasive aspergillosis  
100,000 deaths annually

Chronic pulmonary aspergillosis  
450,000 deaths per year.

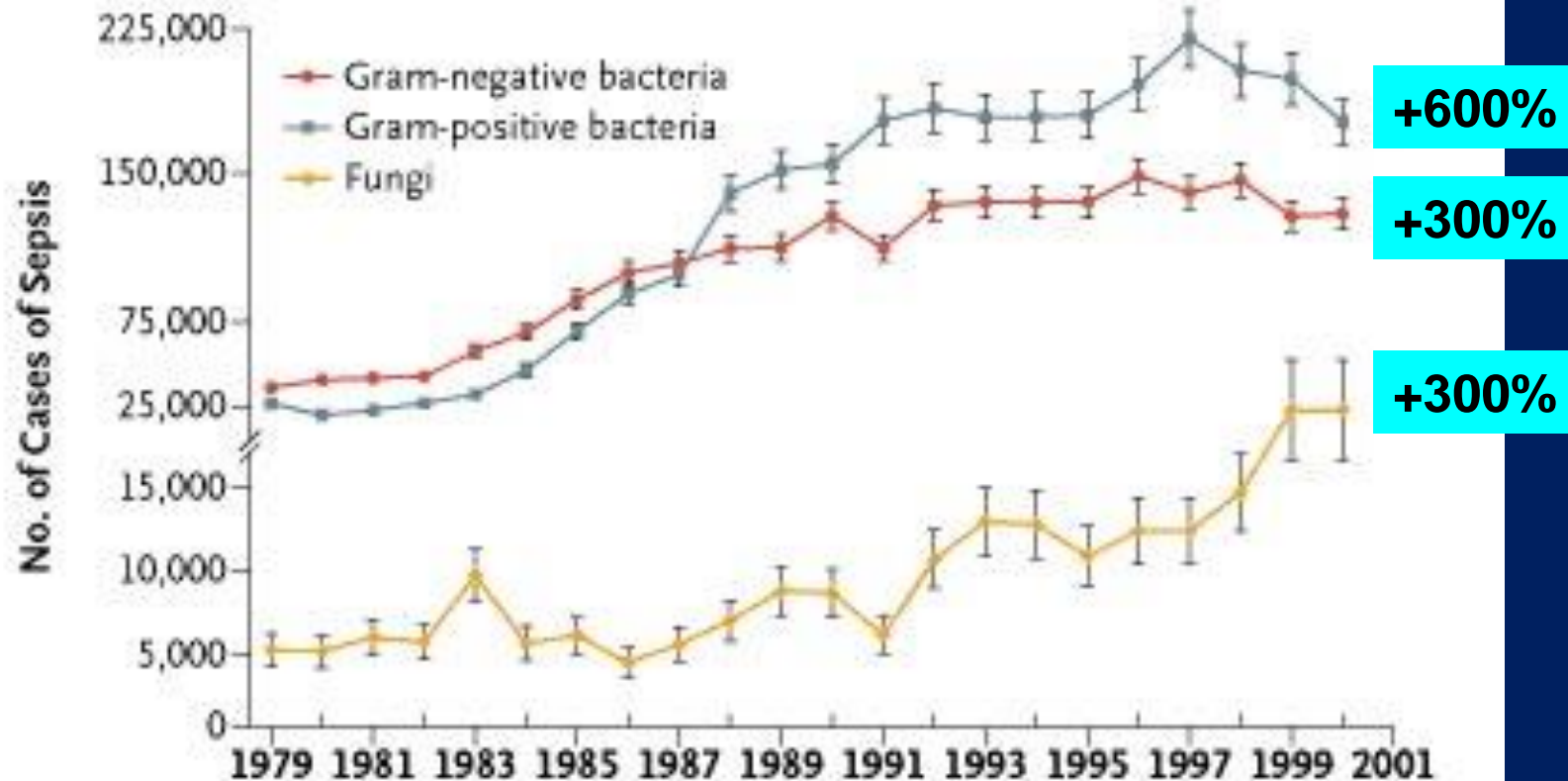
Candida bloodstream infection  
120,000 deaths per year



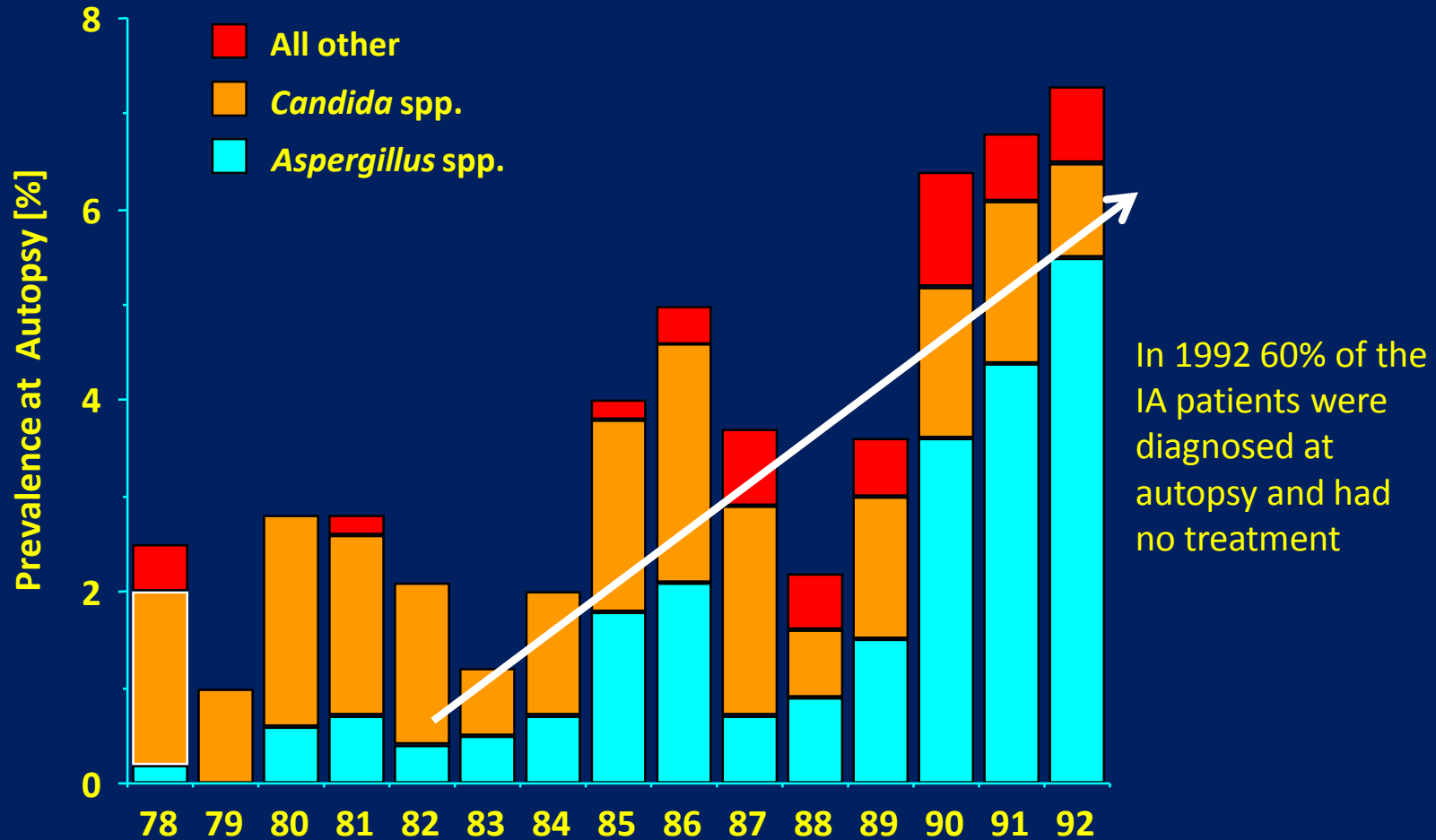
# Magnitude of the problem

- Increasing cases of invasive fungal infections
- Poor performing diagnostic tools
- Increasing use of prophylaxis and empirical therapy
- Replacement of sensitive species by resistant ones
- Increasing awareness of the role of fungi in allergy
- Increasing drug and hospitalisation costs

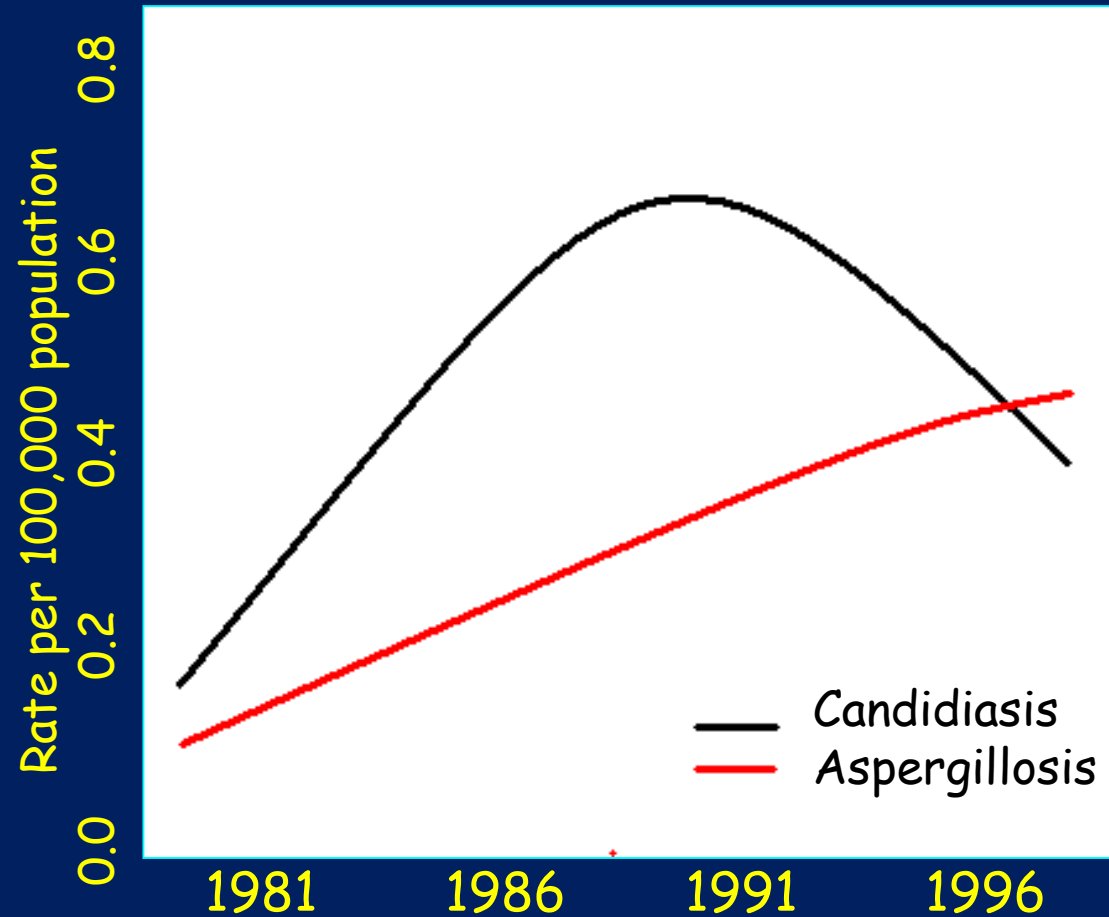
# Increasing rate of candidosis in the USA



# Prevalence of invasive aspergillosis at autopsy



## Changing incidence of fatal invasive mycoses in non-HIV patients in USA



# Epidemiological facts of *Aspergillus* infections

- **Cancer patients** with chemotherapy-induced neutropenia
- **Transplant recipients** receiving immunosuppressive therapy
- Prolonged intensive care treatment
- COPD, Post-tuberculosis and CF patients are targets

**PULMONARY ASPERGILLOSIS  
FOLLOWING POST-INFLUENZAL  
BRONCHOPNEUMONIA TREATED WITH  
ANTIBIOTICS**

BY

J. D. ABBOTT, M.D., Dip.Bact.

H. V. J. FERNANDO, M.B., B.S.

K. GURLING, M.D., M.R.C.P.

AND

B. W. MEADE, M.B., B.S.

*(From King's College Hospital and Medical School, London)*

The association of fungus infections with antibiotic therapy is now well recognized. Although many references are to be found in the American literature, few examples have been recorded in this country. We therefore think the following case of pulmonary aspergillosis

**DISSEMINATED ASPERGILLOSIS  
AND MONILIASIS ASSOCIATED WITH  
AGRANULOCYTOSIS AND  
ANTIBIOTIC THERAPY**

BY

N. E. RANKIN, M.B., B.S.

*From the Department of Pathology, the Royal Infirmary,  
Gloucester)*

Pulmonary aspergillosis and local infections with monilia are not rare, but the disseminated forms are much less common. The use of antibiotics in the presence of these fungous infections is dangerous. The following case is of interest because both fungi were present in the lesions.

**Case Report**

A window cleaner aged 45 was seen on April 3, 1951, with an abscess of the thigh. He was treated with sulphamides, and was admitted on April 18 for evacuation of the abscess. Later developed

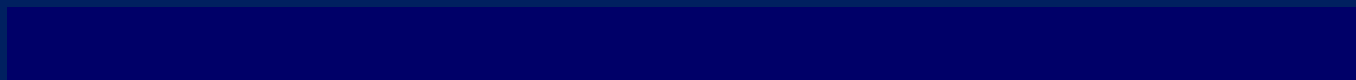
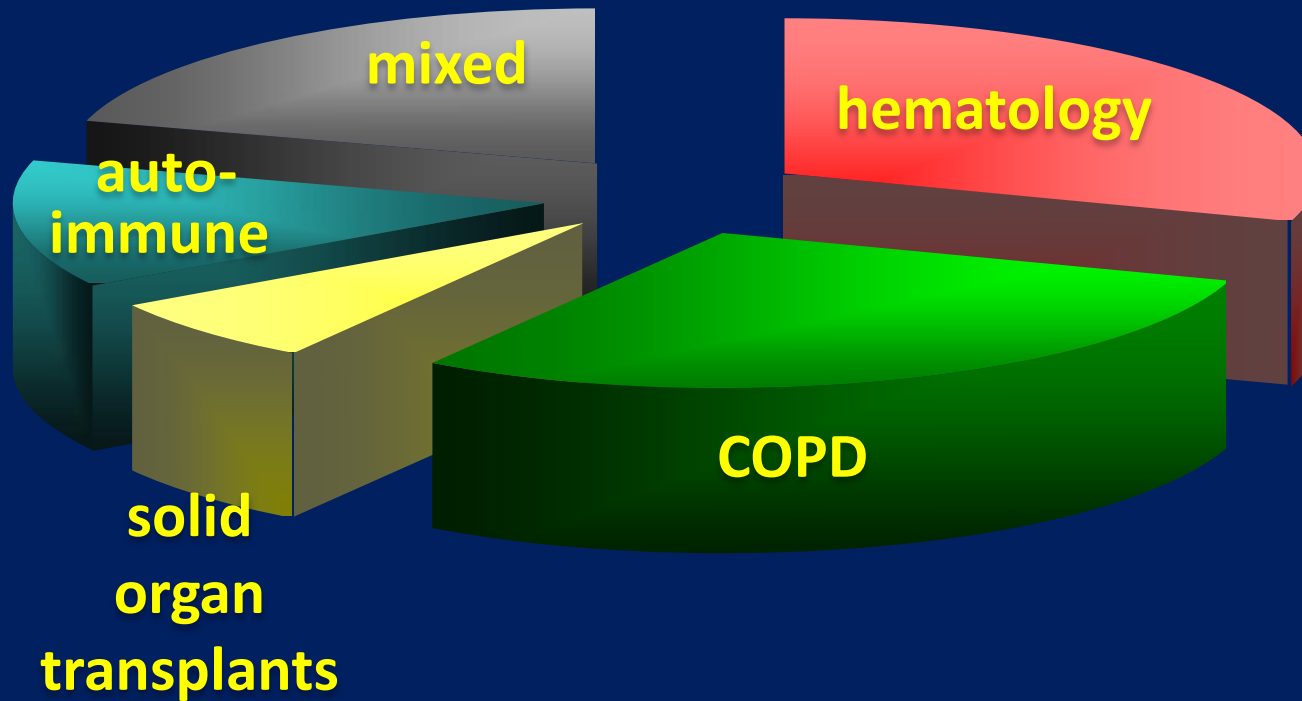


# ASPERGILLUS INFECTIONS IN ICU UNITS

*Meersseman et al. Clin Microbiol Infect 2004;10,Suppl 3:266*

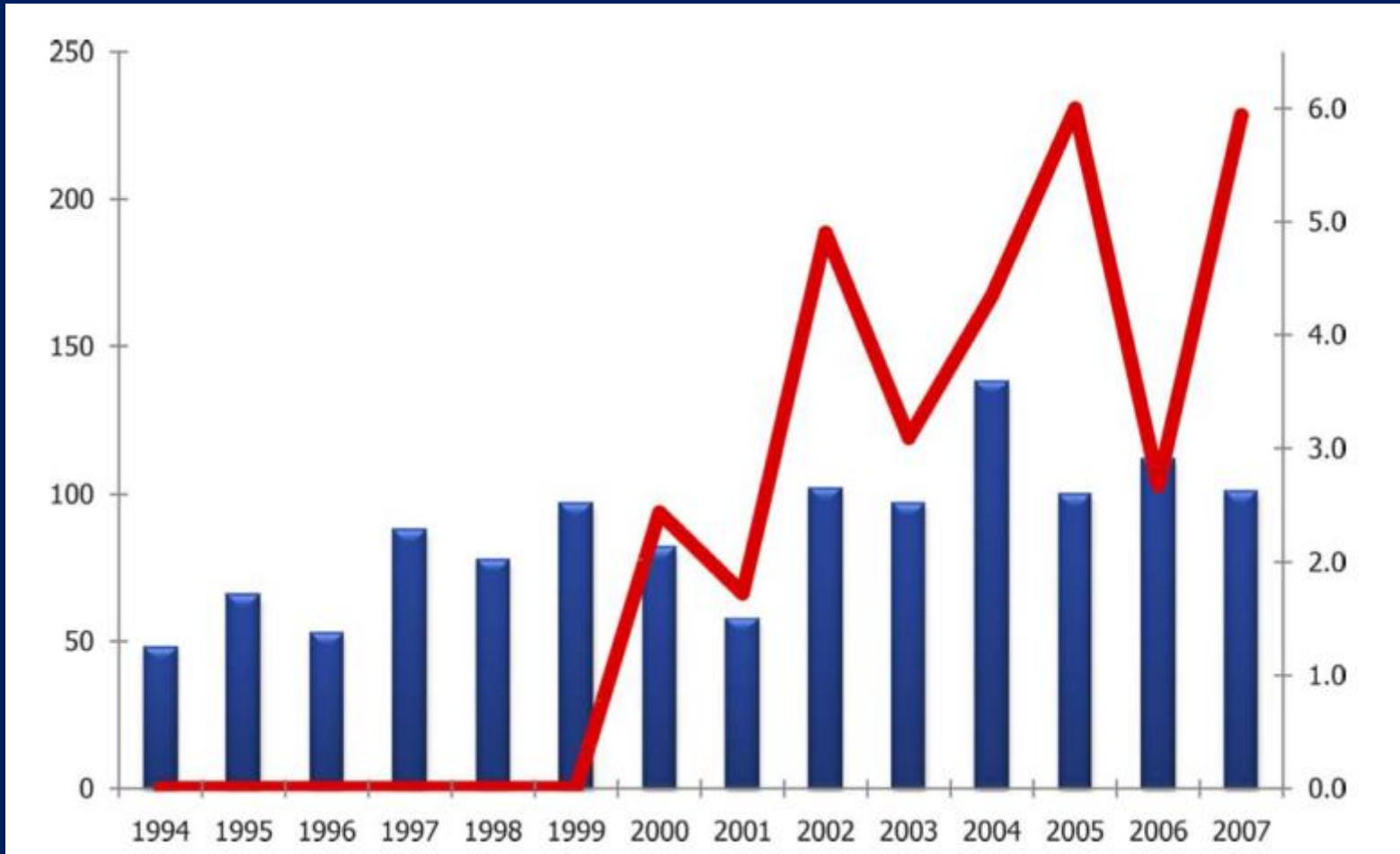
**1850 admissions 2000-2003**

**6.9%**





# Acquired resistance in *A. fumigatus* at the Radboud University Medical Center



4.9%

2013

94% TR<sub>34</sub>/L98H

Clinical isolates

## Isolation of multiple-triazole-resistant *Aspergillus fumigatus* strains carrying the TR/L98H mutations in the *cyp51A* gene in India

Anuradha Chowdhary<sup>1\*</sup>, Shallu Kathuria<sup>1</sup>, Harbans S. Randhawa<sup>1</sup>, Shailendra N. Gaur<sup>2</sup>, Corné H. Klaassen<sup>3</sup> and Jacques F. Meis<sup>3,4</sup>



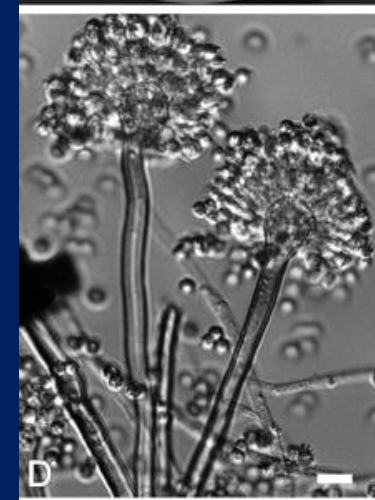
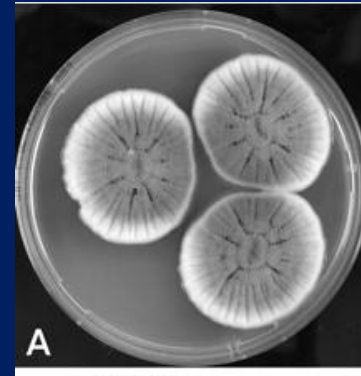
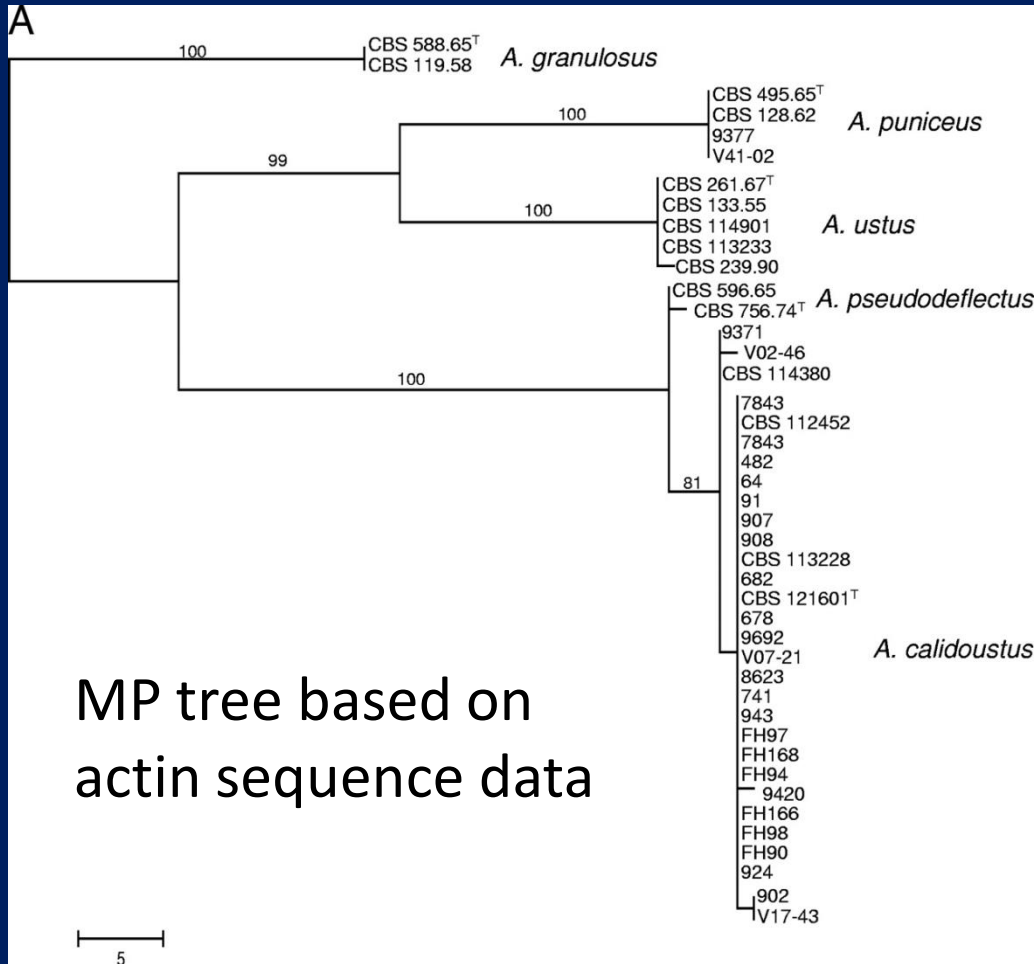
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PLOS ONE

## Clonal Expansion and Emergence of Environmental Multiple-Triazole-Resistant *Aspergillus fumigatus* Strains Carrying the TR<sub>34</sub>/L98H Mutations in the *cyp51A* Gene in India

Anuradha Chowdhary<sup>1\*</sup>, Shallu Kathuria<sup>1</sup>, Jianping Xu<sup>2</sup>, Cheshta Sharma<sup>1</sup>, Gandhi Sundar<sup>1</sup>, Pradeep Kumar Singh<sup>1</sup>, Shailendra N. Gaur<sup>3</sup>, Ferry Hagen<sup>4</sup>, Corné H. Klaassen<sup>4</sup>, Jacques F. Meis<sup>4,5</sup>

# Aspergillus calidoustus former A. ustus



Antifungal agent	MIC (mg/liter [range]) (n = 20)
Amphotericin B	1-2
5-FC	8->64
Itraconazole	>16 (16)
Voriconazole	8-16
Posaconazole	>16
Terbinafine	0.031-0.125
Caspofungin	0.25-4

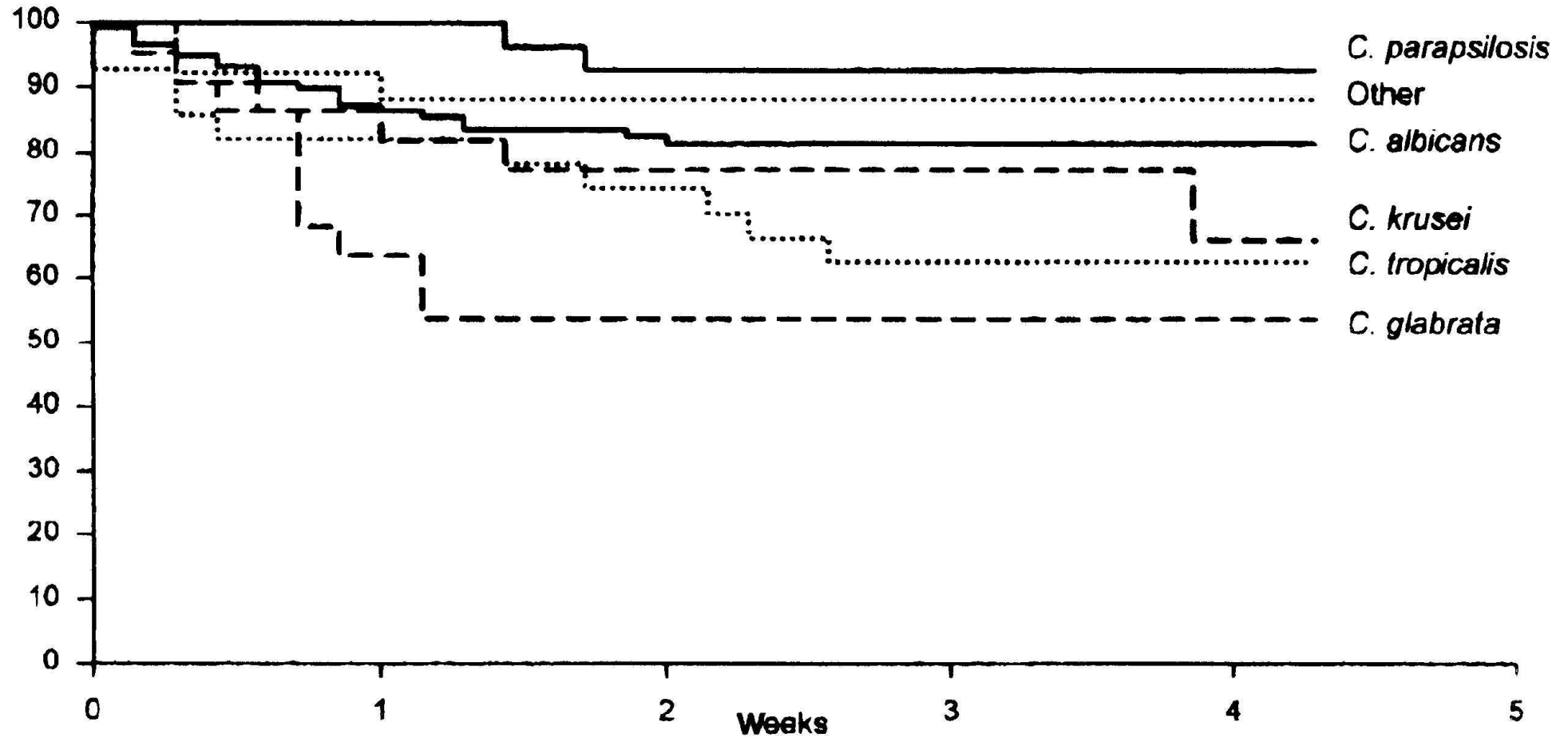
# Invasive fungal infection –current mortality rates

	<u>Mortality</u>
<u>Aspergillosis</u>	
Pulmonary aspergillosis	50-75%
Cerebral aspergillosis	95%
<u>Candidosis</u>	
Candidaemia	40%

# Antifungal susceptibility in *Candida* spp.

Usually susceptible	Less susceptible	Resistant
<u>Fluconazole</u> <i>C. albicans</i> <i>C. parapsilosis</i> All others	<i>C. tropicalis</i>	<i>C. glabrata</i> <i>C. krusei</i>
<u>Amphotericin B</u> <i>C. albicans</i> <i>C. tropicalis</i> <i>C. parapsilosis</i>	<i>C. lusitaniae</i>	<i>C. krusei</i> <i>C. glabrata</i>
<u>Caspofungin</u> <i>C. albicans</i>	<i>C. parapsilosis</i>	<i>C. glabrata</i>
<i>C. tropicalis</i> <i>C. glabrata</i> <i>C. krusei</i>	<i>C. guilliermondii</i> <i>C. lusitaniae</i>	emerging

# Candidaemia – Survival According To Species



# *Candida* species causing bloodstream infection worldwide and India

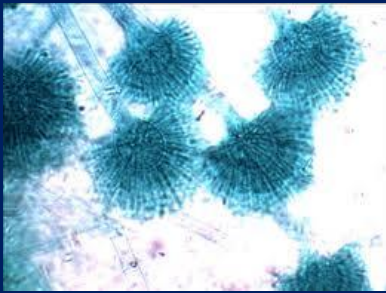
Species	USA (n=4570)	Europe (n=7659)	L. America (n=1710)	Asia (n=5803)	India (n=2592)
<b><i>C. albicans</i></b>	52	61	42	32	16
<b><i>C. glabrata</i></b>	20	15	5	8	5
<i>C. parapsilosis</i>	12	12	22	13	4
<b><i>C. tropicalis</i></b>	12	7	18	25	37
<i>C. krusei</i>	2	2	3	3	5
<i>C. guilliermondii</i>	0	1	3	5	11
Other <i>Candida</i> species	3	3	7	13	23

# The threat of opportunistic fungal infections



**Opportunistic fungi  
Include all species from**

**A (Aspergillus)  
To  
Z (Zygomycetes)**



- **Candidosis**
- **Aspergillosis**
- **Mucormycosis**

**>80%**

- *Fusarium* spp.
- *Scedosporium* spp.
- *Trichosporon* spp.
- *Penicillium* spp.







# TOP 10 NEW SPECIES

2014  
International  
Institute  
for Species  
Exploration  
SUNY-ESF

[TOP 10 HOME](#) | [2014 NEW SPECIES](#) | [PAST YEARS](#) | [INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR SPECIES EXPLORATION](#)

[ESF HOME](#) > [TOP10](#)

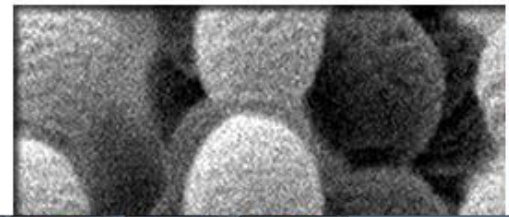
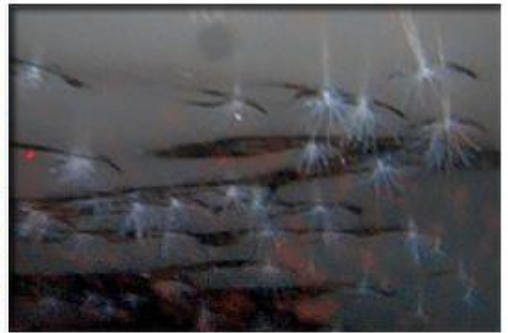
## Top 10 New Species for 2014

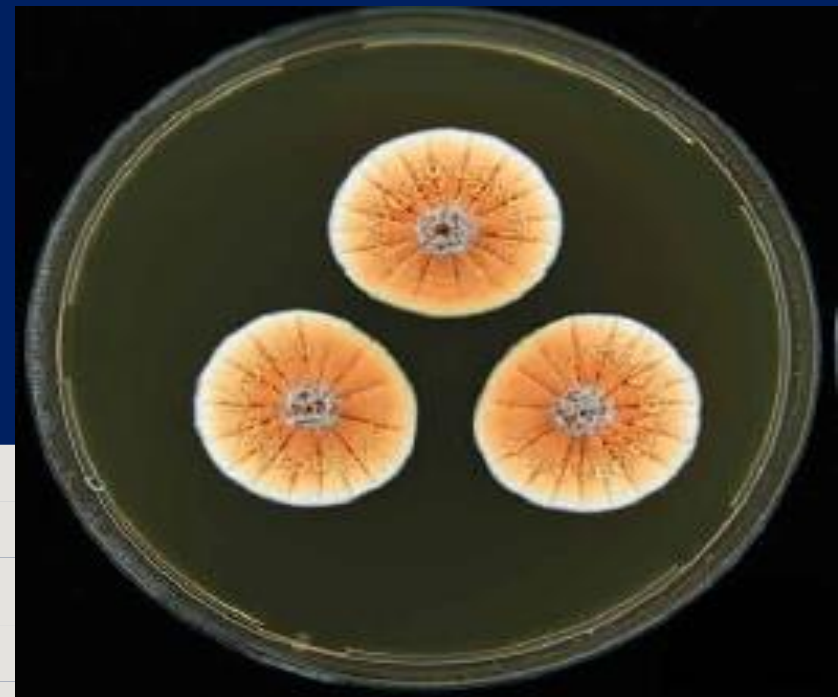
An appealing carnivorous mammal, a 12-meter-tall tree that has been hiding in plain sight and a sea anemone that lives under an Antarctic glacier are among the species identified by the **SUNY-ESF International Institute for Species Exploration (IISE)** as the top 10 species discovered last year.

### The 2014 Top Ten

Species are not ranked, and are presented in alphabetical order by scientific name.

- **Olinguito** (*Bassaricyon neblina*)
- **Kaweesak's Dragon Tree** (*Dracaena kaweesakii*)
- **ANDRILL Anemone** (*Edwardsiella andrillae*)
- **Skeleton Shrimp** (*Liropus minusculus*)
- **Orange Penicillium** (*Penicillium vanoranjei*)
- **Leaf-tailed Gecko** (*Saltuarius eximius*)
- **Amoeboid Protist** (*Spiculosiphon oceana*)
- **Clean Room Microbes** (*Tersicoccus phoenicis*)
- **Tinkerbella Fairyfly** (*Tinkerbella nana*)
- **Domed Land Snail** (*Zospeum tholussum*)





## Orange Penicillium

*Scientific Name: Penicillium vanoranjei*

Country of Discovery: Tunisia

Distinguished by the bright orange color it displays when produced in colonies, this fungus was named as a tribute to the Dutch royal family, specifically His Royal Highness the Prince of Orange. It was reported in a journal published by the National Herbarium of the Netherlands. The newcomer was isolated from soil in Tunisia. This species also produces a sheet-like extra-cellular matrix that may function as protection from drought.

## Case 1

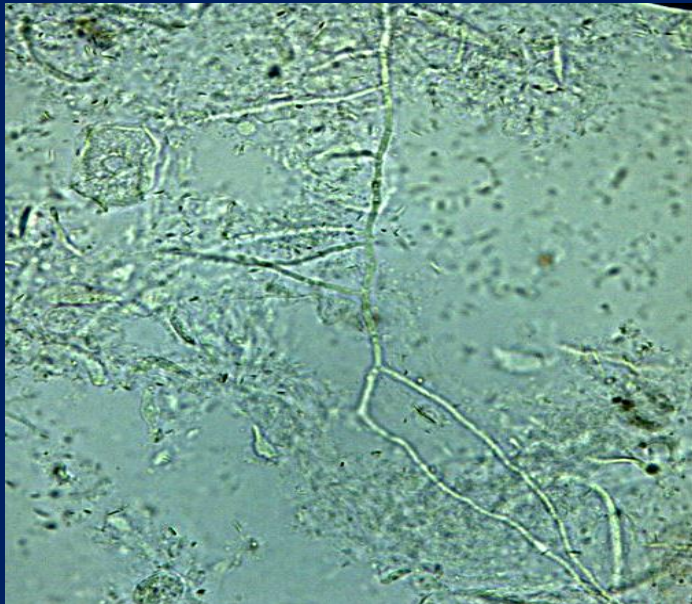
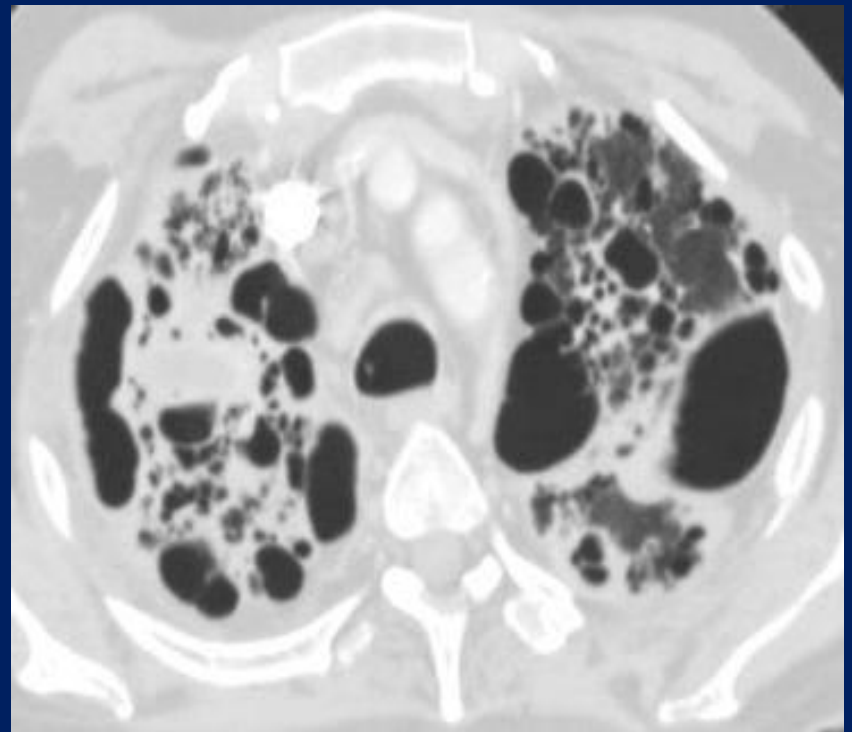
## Case 2

## Case 3

Age/Sex	12/F
Clinical summary	AML, on induction chemotherapy
Present clinical diagnosis	Suspected pulmonary aspergillosis
VRC: indication	Empirical therapy for IPA
VRC: started after admission on day	17
Symptoms	Intermittent fever
Radiology	Nodule, upper lobe of right lung; enhancing ring lesions in liver and spleen
Site of Infection	Liver, spleen and lung
Duration of VRC therapy (days)	38
Clinical specimen	Liver aspirate
In vitro AFST (MIC/MEC $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )	
VRC	2
AMB	$\leq 0.03$
ITC	0.5
POS	0.125

Age/Sex	45/F
Clinical summary	COPD, on steroids
Present clinical diagnosis	CPA
VRC: indication	Therapy for CPA
VRC: started after admission on day	12
Symptoms	Intermittent fever since 1.5 years, cough
Radiology	Diffuse, bilateral pulmonary infiltrates
Site of Infection	Lung
Duration of VRC therapy (days)	59
Clinical specimen	FNAB, BAL, sputum
In vitro AFST (MIC/MEC $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )	
VRC	>16
AMB	0.5
ITC	2
POS	0.5

Age/Sex	54/M
Clinical summary	COPD, on steroids, uncontrolled diabetes mellitus
Present clinical diagnosis	CPA
VRC: indication	Therapy for CPA
VRC: started after admission on day	7
Symptoms	Dyspnoea, anorexia, weight loss, intermittent fever since 4 years
Radiology	Cavitating consolidation, middle lobe, lingual and bilateral upper lobes of the lung
Site of Infection	Lung
Duration of VRC therapy (days)	49
Clinical specimen	FNAB, sputum
In vitro AFST (MIC/MEC $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )	
VRC	2
AMB	0.5
ITC	1
POS	0.125



# Probable diagnosis?

1. Aspergillosis (azole resistant)
2. Scedosporiosis
3. Fusariosis
4. Penicilliosis
5. Invasive filamentous fungal infections

# Voriconazole-Resistant *Penicillium oxalicum*: An Emerging Pathogen in Immunocompromised Hosts

Anuradha Chowdhary,<sup>1</sup> Shallu Kathuria,<sup>1</sup> Kshitij Agarwal,<sup>2</sup>  
Neelam Sachdeva,<sup>3</sup> Pradeep K. Singh,<sup>1</sup> Sandeep Jain,<sup>3</sup>  
and Jacques F. Meis<sup>4,5</sup>

Open Forum Infectious Diseases

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# New *Candida* species in complex

*C. albicans* → *C. dubliniensis* <10%  
→ *C. africana* <1%

*C. glabrata* → *C. bracarensis* <2.2%  
→ *C. nivariensis* <0.5%

*C. haemulonii*  
→ *C. auris* < 0.1%

*C. parapsilosis* → *C. orthopsilosis* 1.4%  
→ *C. metapsilosis* 1.7%

# Outbreaks of unusual cases of fungemia

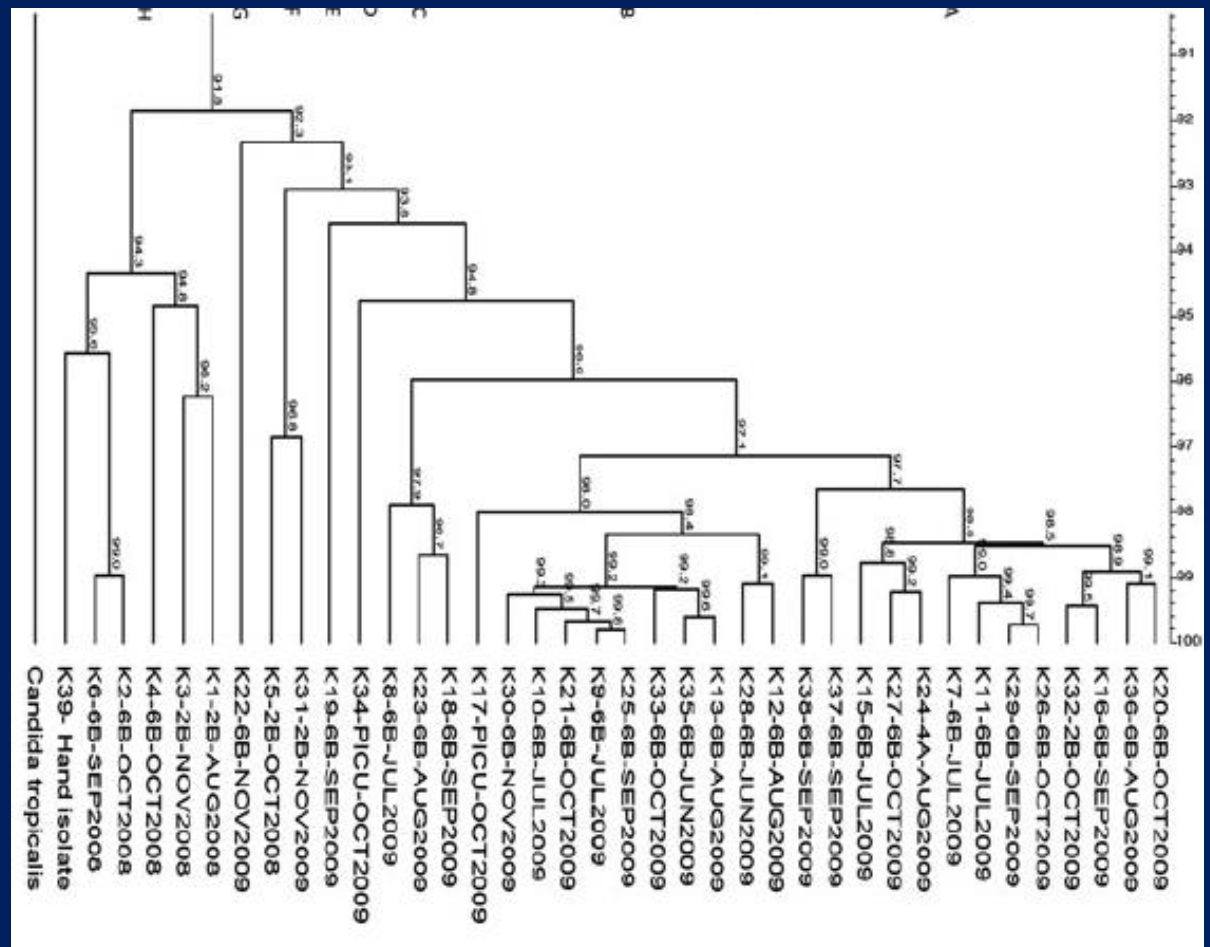
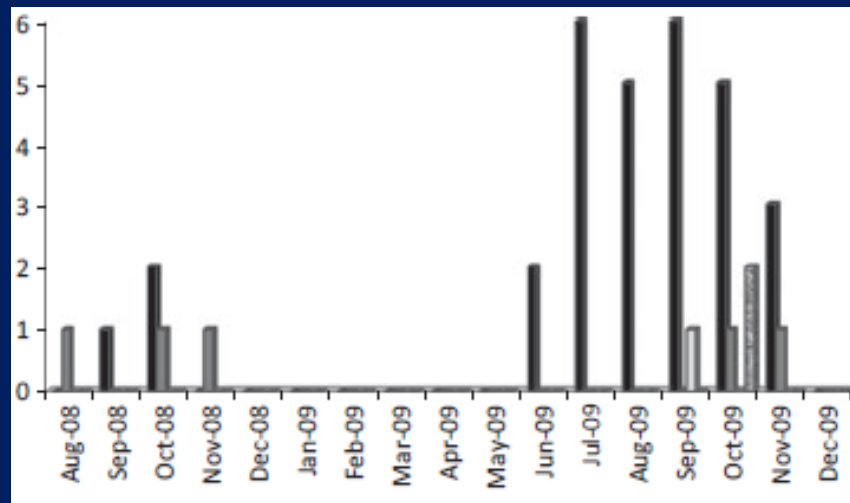
- *Pichia anomala*
- ***Kodamaea ohmeri***
- *Candida haemulonii*
- *Pichia fabianii*
- ***Candida auris***
- *C. guilliermondii*
- *C. lusitaniae*
- *C. dubliniensis*
- *C. inconspicua*
- *C. famata*
- *C. rugosa*
- *C. norvegensis*



# Clin Microbiol Infect. 2014; 20 (2) :83-9.

## Epidemiological study of a large cluster of fungaemia cases due to *Kodamaea ohmeri* in an Indian tertiary care centre

A. Chakrabarti<sup>1</sup>, S. M. Rudramurthy<sup>1</sup>, P. Kale<sup>1</sup>, P. Hariprasath<sup>1</sup>, M. Dhaliwal<sup>1</sup>, S. Singhi<sup>2</sup> and K. L. N. Rao<sup>3</sup>



# New Clonal Strain of *Candida auris*, Delhi, India

Anuradha Chowdhary, Cheshta Sharma,  
Shalini Duggal, Kshitij Agarwal,  
Anupam Prakash, Pradeep Kumar Singh,  
Sarika Jain, Shallu Kathuria,  
Harbans S. Randhawa, Ferry Hagen,  
and Jacques F. Meis

Emerging Infectious Diseases Vol. 19, No. 10, October 2013



## Multidrug-resistant endemic clonal strain of *Candida auris* in India

A. Chowdhary • V. Anil Kumar • C. Sharma •  
A. Prakash • K. Agarwal • R. Babu • K. R. Dinesh •  
S. Karim • S. K. Singh • F. Hagen • J. F. Meis

Eur J Clin Microbiol Infect Dis (2014) 33:919–926



# ESCMID<sup>†</sup> and ECMM<sup>‡</sup> joint clinical guidelines for the diagnosis and management of rare invasive yeast infections

*Clin Microbiol Infect* 2014; 20 (Suppl. 3): 76–98

M. C. Arendrup<sup>1</sup>, T. Boekhout<sup>2,3,4</sup>, M. Akova<sup>5</sup>, J. F. Meis<sup>6,7</sup>, O. A. Cornely<sup>8</sup>, O. Lortholary<sup>9,10</sup> and on behalf of the ESCMID EFISG study group and ECMM\*

- ✓ ***Geotrichum***
  - *candidum*
- ✓ ***Kodamaea ohmeri***
- ✓ ***Malassezia***
  - *furfur*, *globosa*, *pachydermatis* and *restricta*
- ✓ ***Pseudozyma* spp.**
- ✓ ***Rhodotorula***
  - *glutinis*, *minuta* and *mucilaginoso*
- ✓ ***Saccharomyces***
  - *cerevisiae* and *boulardii*
- ✓ ***Saprochaete***
  - *S. capitatae* (*Magnusiomyces* (*Blastoschizomyces*) *capitatus* formerly named *Trichosporon capitatum* or *Geotrichum* (*Dipodascus*) *capitatum*) and *Saprochaete clavata*.
- ✓ ***Sporobolomyces***
- ✓ ***Trichosporon***
  - *asahii*, *asteroides*, *dermatis*, *inkin*, *jirovecii*, *loubieri*, *mucoides* and *mycotoxinivorans*

Not rare per se

but

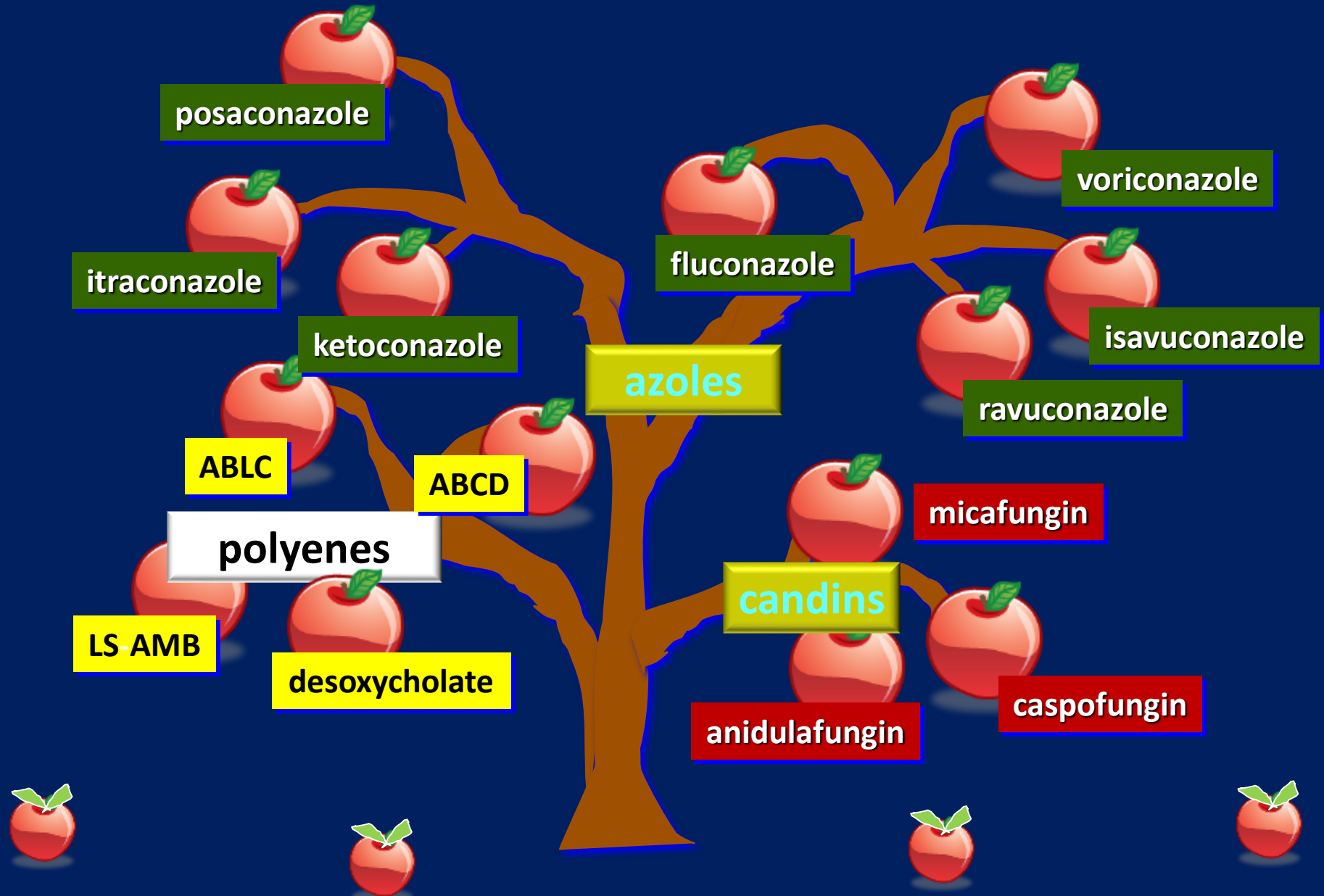
Rare as invasive pathogens

# Identification to the species level

Genus	Motivation	SoR	QoE	Method
<i>Cryptococcus</i>	Inter-species MIC variation documented	B	II	ITS 1 + 2 (2 <sup>nd</sup> option D1/D2 domain); MALDI-TOF promising
<i>Geotrichum</i>	Can be confused w other spp	B	II	ITS 1 + 2 (2 <sup>nd</sup> option D1/D2 domain); MALDI-
<i>K. ohmeri</i>	Can be confused w <i>C. guilliermondii</i> MIC differs (eg low candin MIC)	B	II	ITS 1 + 2
<i>Malassezia</i>	Mainly important in outbreak investigation	B	II	MALDI-TOF
<i>Pseudozyma</i>	To gain experience	B	II	(n)
<i>Rhodotorula</i>	Less important for clin management	C	II	(domain)
<i>Saccharomyces</i>	Less important for clin management	C	II	Biochemical tests or MALDI-TOF
<i>Saprochaete</i>	Can be confused w other spp.	B	II	ITS 1 + 2 (2 <sup>nd</sup> option D1/D2 domain); MALDI-TOF promising
<i>Sporobolomyces</i>	Can be confused w other spp.	B	II	ITS 1 + 2 (2 <sup>nd</sup> option D1/D2 domain)
<i>Trichosporon</i>	Inter-species MIC variation documented	B	II	ITS 1 + 2 (2 <sup>nd</sup> option D1/D2 domain); IGS1 necessary for some species; MALDI-TOF promising

**Species ID  
obligatory in  
outbreak investigation**

# THE ANTIFUNGAL APPEL TREE - 2014







# YIELD OF GUIDELINE APPLICATION

*Linder et al. Dtsch Arztebl Int 2011; 108:155-162*

**84.410 patients**  
diabetes type II  
guideline-based

**23.180 patients**  
diabetes type II  
**controls**



**22%**

**Stroke**  
**Vascular complications**  
**Neuropathy**  
**Renal failure**  
**Ischemic heart disease**



**24%**

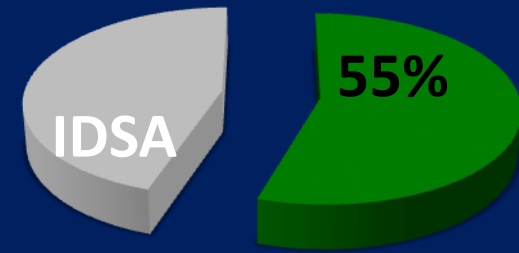
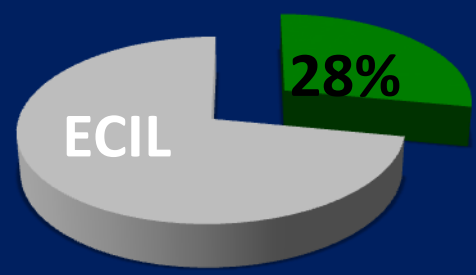




# IMPACT OF ADHERENCE TO GUIDELINES AND SURVIVAL

*Pagano et al. J Antimicrob Chemother 2010; 65:2013-2018*

**136 patients with proven/probable invasive aspergillosis**  
**ADHERENCE TO GUIDELINES**



**SURVIVAL at day 120**

	<b>ADHERENCE</b>	<b>NO ADHERENCE</b>
<b>ECIL</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>28%</b>
<b>IDSA</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>30%</b>

# HAPPY WITH GUIDELINES?

## ADVANTAGES:

- Evidence based
- Limits subjectivity
- Easily available
- Saves time
- Standard therapy  
guaranteed
- Comparability data
- Evaluation possible
- Cost control possible



# HAPPY WITH GUIDELINES?

## BUT

- Good evidence limited
- Offers pseudo-objectivity
- Missing recent data
- Reduces reflection
- Little space for individual needs
- Comparison of data in different populations
- Administrator paradise



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# Conclusions

- Fungi are here to stay and are a major threat in advancement of medicine
- Rare yeasts and filamentous fungi increasingly encountered
- Rare due to low virulence not rare per se
  - How to interpret “overall” outcome (did the patient die with or because of the infection)
- Rapid taxonomic changes; molecular ID necessary
- Especially for epidemiological purposes including outbreak investigation
- Guidelines are made by busy doctors; let your clinical judgement also take control

# Trends in Medical Mycology (magnitude of solution)

- EXPECT the UNEXPECTED
- New and Emerging Species
- Molecular Identification
- Molecular Epidemiology
- Emerging Resistance