

Trend of *Candida* infection and antifungal resistance in a tertiary care hospital of north east India

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Abstract

The present study was based on the epidemiological picture of *Candida albicans* and non-*albicans Candida* encountered in different systemic and mucosal infections including HIV/AIDS in North East India. The introduction of chemotherapeutic and antibiotic agents as well as appearance of HIV infection and several other factors like diabetes, old age, etc., has led to emergence of several opportunistic pathogens and *Candida* species, probably the most important pathogen causing majority of infection. *Candida* species isolated from different clinical samples including patients with HIV/AIDS were subjected to species level identification using standard yeast identification protocol. Antifungal sensitivity test was done by Kirby-Bauer disc diffusion method. Out of 113 *Candida* species, 72.56% non-*albicans Candida* and 27.43% *C. albicans* were isolated. In this study, among non-*albicans Candida*, *C. glabrata* was 32% followed by *C. tropicalis* 30% which were isolated. Non-*albicans Candida* was found to be significant over *C. albicans* ($P = 0.086$) at ten percent level of significance. The present study support the need of species level identification and periodic surveillance of the antifungal susceptibility as it would provide selection of appropriate antifungal drug.

Key words: Fungi, yeast, *Candida albicans*, Non-*albicans Candida*, opportunistic pathogen.

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