



CANDIDIASIS AT THE AVICENNE MILITARY HOSPITAL IN MARRAKECH : 5 YEARS ASSESSMENT

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Background

Candidiasis are opportunistic infections that can occur in immunocompetent as well as in immunocompromised individuals, caused by yeasts of the genus *Candida*. They can be mucocutaneous or deep. The objective of this work is to describe the epidemiology of candidiasis.

Observation

This is a retrospective study covering a period of 5 years (01/2017 to 12/2021). It includes all superficial and deep samples sent to or taken from the parasitology-mycology laboratory of the Avicenne military hospital in Marrakech.

References

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Results

During the period of our work, 2876 mycological samples were collected. We recorded 1116 mycological samples with positive culture. Patients with mucocutaneous candidiasis were the most frequent. For mucocutaneous candidiasis, there was a predominance of females while for deep candidiasis the male sex dominated.

Mucocutaneous candidiasis was dominant compared to deep candidiasis.

Ungual candidiasis is the most common mucocutaneous candidiasis, followed by mucosal candidiasis with a predominance of oropharyngeal candidiasis, then cutaneous candidiasis were detected in 26 patients.

Deep candidiasis is dominated by bronchopulmonary candidiasis, followed by *Candida* fungemia, then intra-abdominal involvement, while cerebro-meningeal candidiasis presented only one case.

Candida albicans was the most frequently isolated species (67.02%).

Discussion

In our study, mucocutaneous candidiasis is prevalent in females, entirely in accordance with the literature. This prevalence can be explained by the household chores done mainly by women, including excessive exposure to water and chemicals, and the hormonal changes during pregnancy. On the contrary, for deep candidiasis, we noticed a masculine predominance in the different studies, including ours. This result can be explained by the higher level of physical activity done by men, which exposes them to sweating and maceration. In our series, the young adult population was the most affected by mucocutaneous candidiasis, which is consistent with the different literature data. As for deep candidiasis, it was more prevalent in an older population. This result is explained by multiple factors which include malnutrition, poor hygiene, polymedication, and associated defects.

Conclusion

Candidiasis are opportunistic infections favored by several factors. The *Candida albicans* species remains the most common cause of candidiasis, although *non-albicans* species are increasingly present with the emergence of new strains.