

# A Fungus Among Us

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*This presentation is intended for educational use only, and does not in any way constitute medical consultation or advice related to any specific patient.*

# Plan

- What is a fungus?
- Which fungi do we really care about and why?
  - Target Candida
- Diagnosis
- Treatment
- Next week is stewardship in antifungals

# A Fungus Among Us



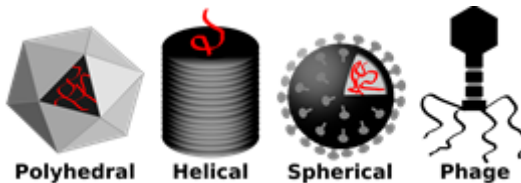
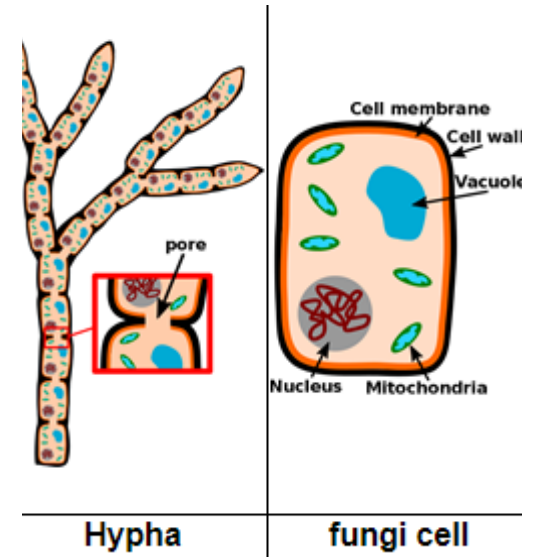
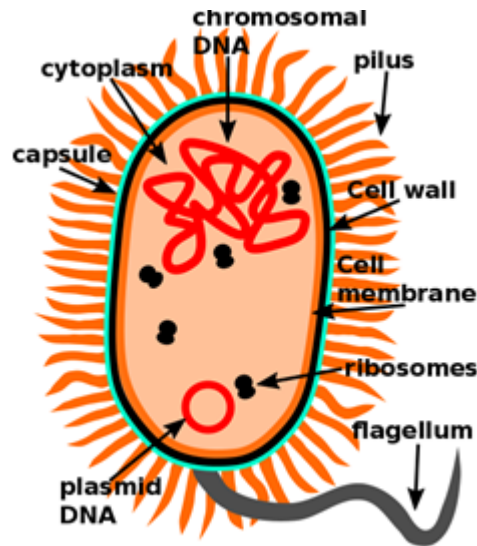
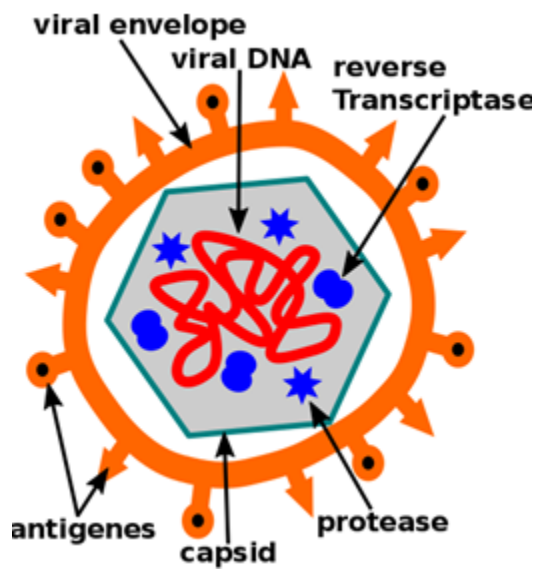
I cannot forecast to you the action of fungus. It is a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma:

Russian national interest.

(Winston Churchill)

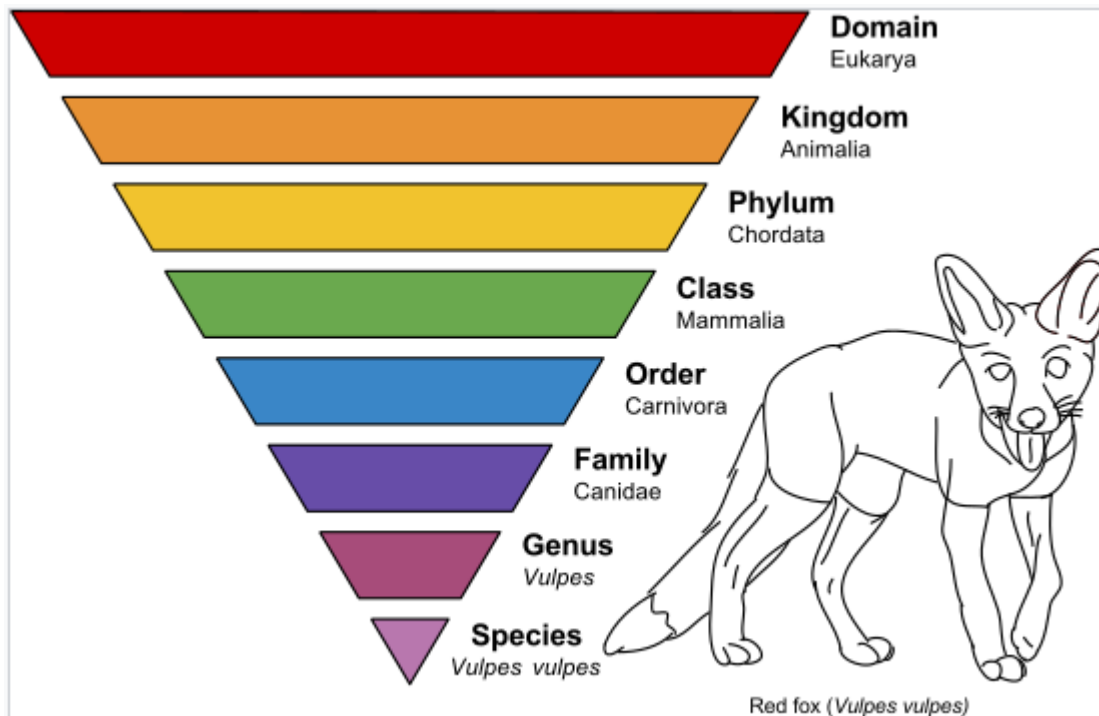
izquotes.com

# What is a Fungus?





# How science orders Fungi



## Chytridiomycota



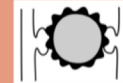
flagellate cell

## Blastocladiomycota



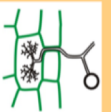
flagellate cell

## „Zygomycota“



zygosporangium with suspensors

## Glomeromycota



endomycorrhizal fungi

## Ascomycota



ascus with ascospores

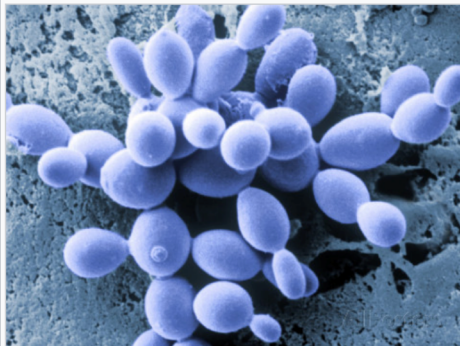
## Basidiomycota



basidium with basidiospores

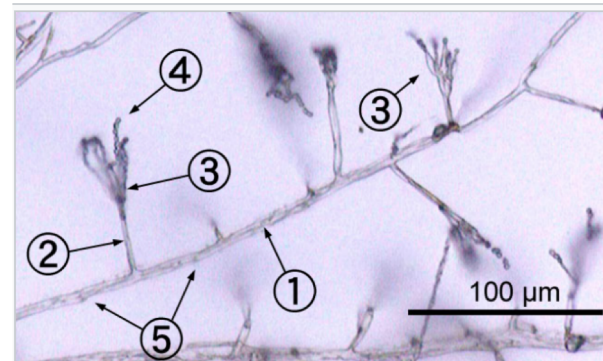
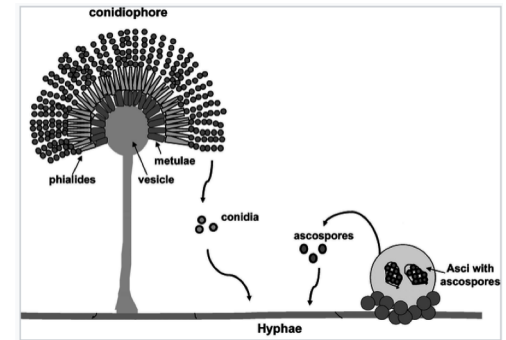
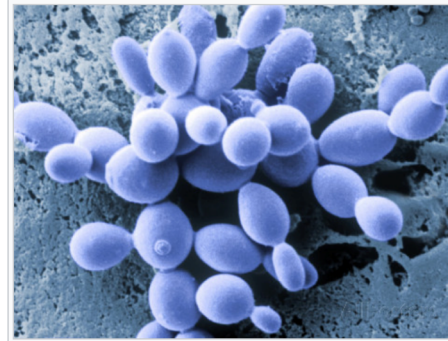
# Basidiomycota

- Cryptococcus
- Mushrooms
- Many more



# Ascomycota

- *Candida*
- *Aspergillus*
- *Blastomyces*
- *Histoplasma*
- *Coccidioides*
- *Paracoccidioides*
- *Penicillium*
- *Sporothrix*
- *Fusarium*
- *Scedosporium*

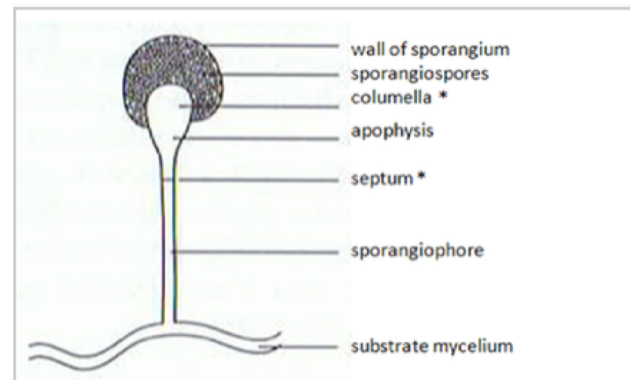
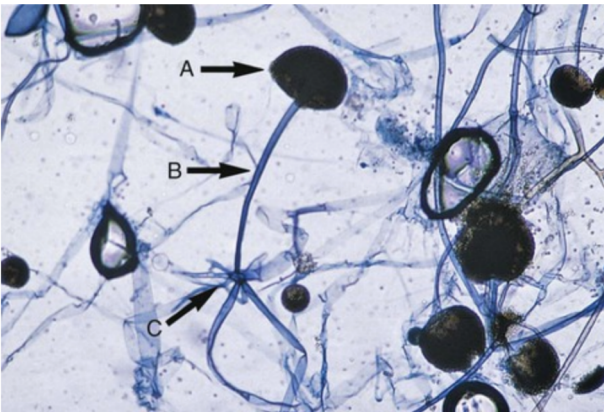


An environmental isolate of *Penicillium*  
1 hypha • 2 conidiophore • 3 phialide • 4 conidia • 5 septa

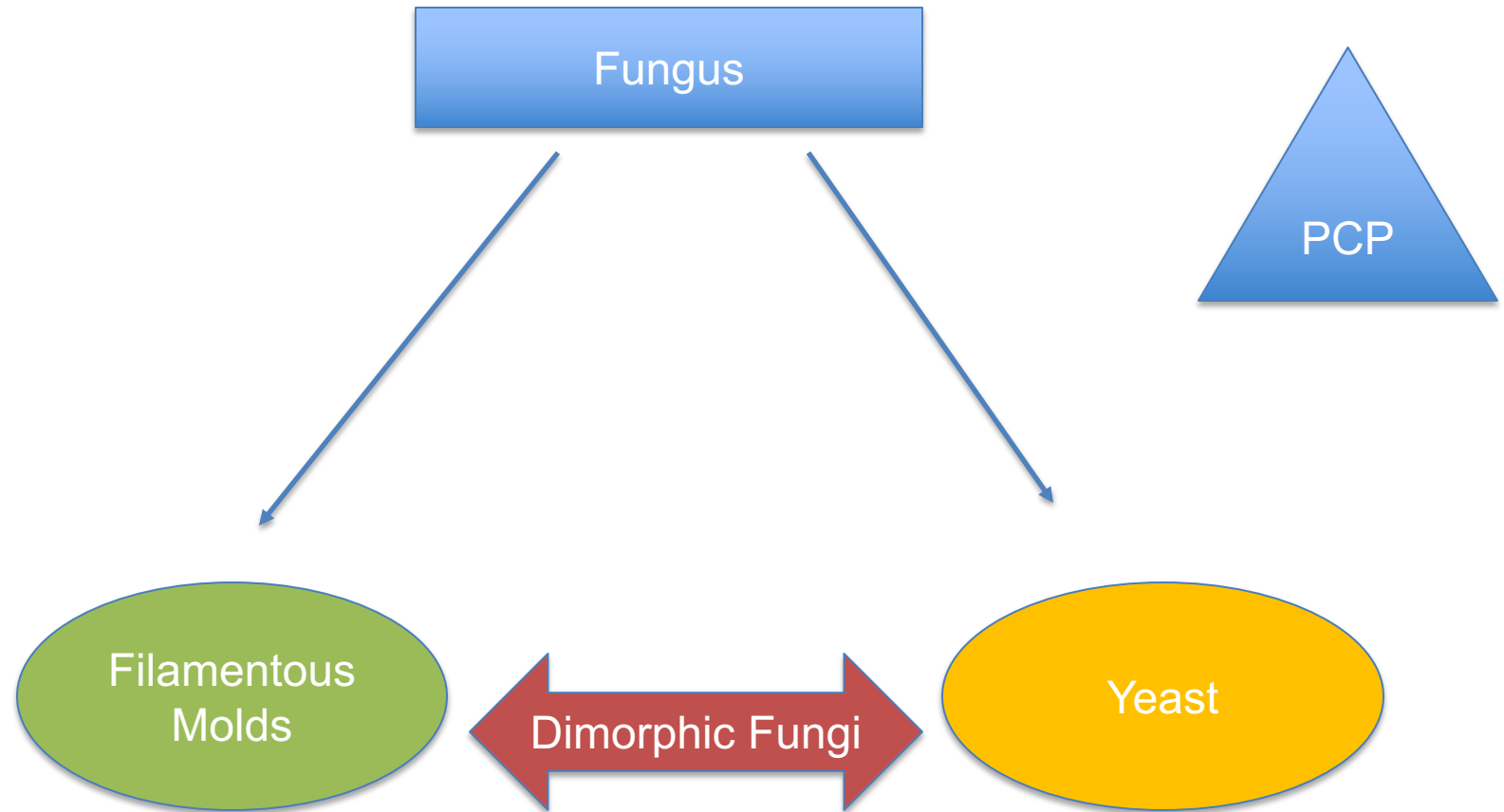
# Zygomycota



- Mucor & Rhizopus
- Fast growing
- Sporangia



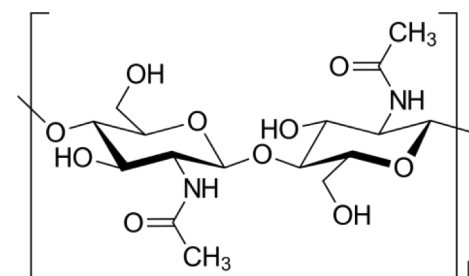
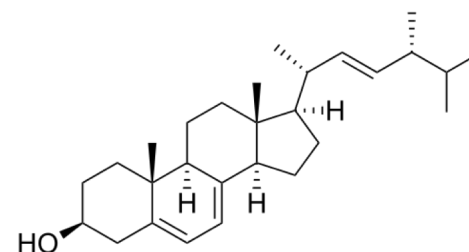
# How we order Fungi





# A Fun Guy

- Cell membrane:
  - Ergosterol (fungi version of cholesterol).
  - Amphotericin, echinocandins, azoles.
- Cell Wall: Surrounds the membrane. Contains Chitin.



# Treatment

Class	Mechanism
<u>Polyenes</u> Amphotericin B & Nystatin	Disrupt fungal membrane by binding to ergosterol
<u>Azoles</u> Vori, fluc, posa, isavu, keto	Inhibit synthesis of ergosterol
<u>Nucleoside analogue</u> 5-FU	Inhibit DNA and RNA synthesis
<u>Allylamines</u> Terbinafine	Inhibit ergosterol synthesis
<u>Grisans</u> Griseofulvin	Inhibit fungal mitosis
<u>Candins</u> Micafungin	Inhibit cell wall synthesis

# Amphotericin B

- Ampho B deoxycholate – data .
- Liposomal Ampho B – Tx .
- Nephrotoxicity
  - 50% of patients develop AKI on Ampho B.
  - Liposomal formulations much lower rates of AKI.



# Fluc, Itra, Posa, Isavu

- *C. Krusei* and *C. glabrata*??
- P450 inhibition - Interactions.
- Fluconazole:
  - 90% oral bioavailability and 70% penetrates the CSF. Concentrates in urine.
- Voriconazole
  - Better for *C. Krusei* and *glabrata*.
  - Hepatic, CNS, and visual toxicity.
- Posa and isavu
  - Not used as primary tx for candidiasis.

# EchinoCANDIDAns

- Caspofungin, micafungin, anidulafungin.
- First line treatment for candidemia.
- Low MICs for most candida species.



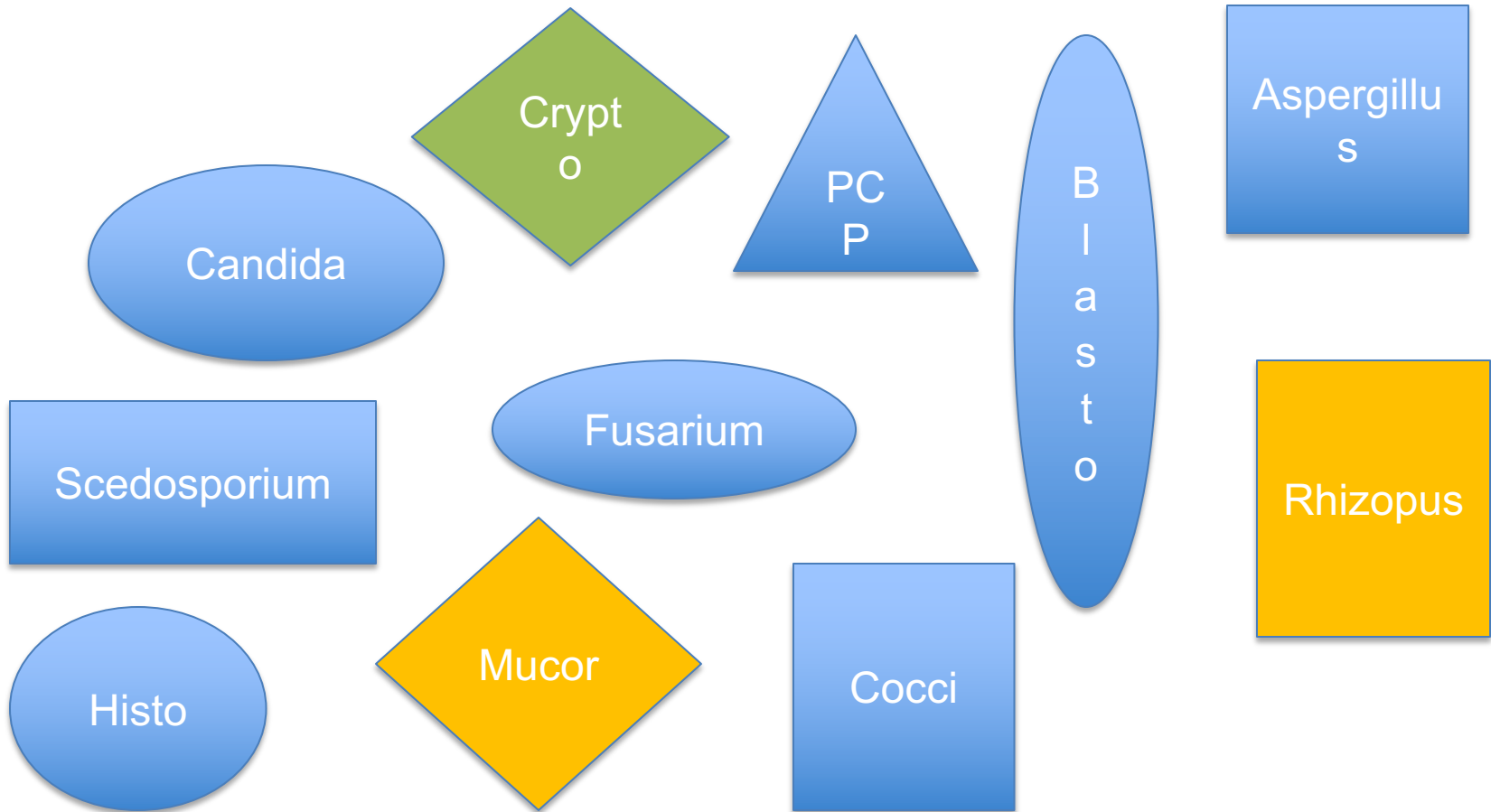
# Flucytosine

- No effect on *C. Krusei*.
- High CNS penetration and eye penetration.
- CNS infections and endocarditis. Always used in conjunction with another antifungal.



Candida Sp	Fluc	Itra	Vori	Posa	5-FU	Ampho	Candins
Albicans	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Tropicalis	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
Parapsilosis	S	S	S	S	S	S	S or R?
Glabrata	S-DD to R	S-DD to R	S-DD to R	S-DD to R	S	S to I	S
Krusei	R	S-DD to R	S	S	I to R	S to I	S
Lusitaniae	S	S	S	S	S	S	S to R

# Favorite Fun Guy?



# Candida : A Fun Guy

- Any organ system.
- >90% of invasive disease is due to *C. albicans*, *glabrata*, *krusei*, *parapsilosis*, *tropicalis*.
- ~50% of invasive disease is due to non-albicans candida.
- 47% mortality with candidemia.

# Diagnosis

- Which of these tests is available at your facility?
  - A. Culture and stain
  - B. PCR
  - C. Ab testing
  - D. Beta-D-glucan testing (Fungitell)

# Diagnosis

- Culture and Stain = Gold Standard
- Ag, Ab, and PCR still establishing a role.
- Beta-D-glucan, AKA fungitell:
- PCR Similar issues as fungitell.





What do I do with those positive culture results?

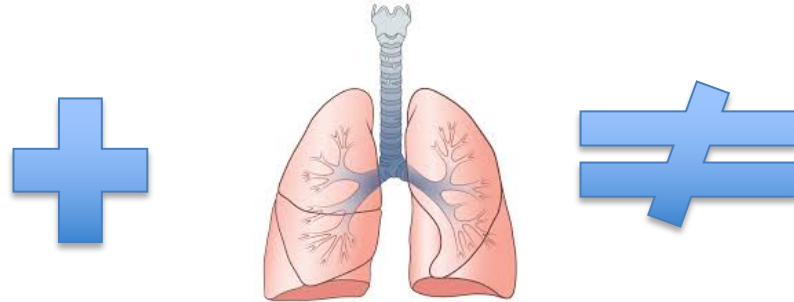
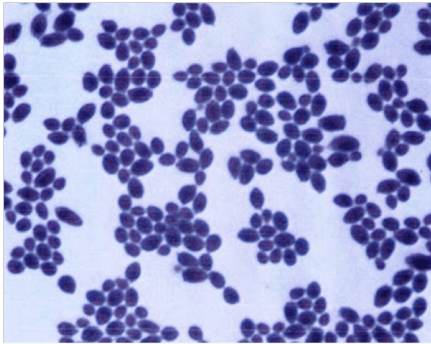
# When to Treat?

- A. Candida in sputum cx.
- B. Candida in urine cx of an asymptomatic non-neutropenic patient.
- C. Candida from a wound culture
- D. Candida from a ETT aspirate of an intubated patient.
- E. Candida from the blood.
- F. D and E
- G. All of the above

# Top three myths of fungal infections...

1. My patient has Candida pneumonia
2. My patients has Candida UTI
3. Fungi are simple.

# Candida Pneumonia ??



PN  
A

Colonizer      22% of healthcare workers & 55% of inpatients on abx will grow candida from their sputum. PPV with candida is 42% and on BAL its 29%.

Masur, H; et al. Pulmonary Disease Caused By Candida Species. The American Journal of Medicine. The American Journal of Medicine. 1977.

Andes; et al. Pulmonary Candidiasis in Patients with Cancer. CID. 2012:54.

# Candida Pneumonia??

- 301 patients who died of pneumonia in ICU 77% had autopsy and 0% had histologically proven candida pneumonia. 44% had candida in sputum samples.
  - *Albicans* > *glabrata* > *Tropicalis* > *Parapsilosis* > *Krusei*.
- No correlation between amount of growth or number of sites colonized and propensity to develop invasive candidiasis.

# Candida Pneumonia?

24% of ICU physicians would treat candidiasis in an intubated and immunocompetent patient.

# Candida Pneumonia !!!

- True candida pneumonia is via candidemia with hematogenous spread.
  - Candida pneumonia without disseminated candida occurred in less than 1% of cases.
- Do not treat candida in sputum.
- Do treat disseminated candidemia presenting with hematogenous spread of candida to the lungs.

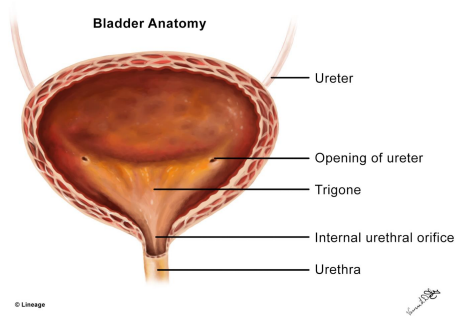
# Candida Pneumonia

In an immunosuppressed patient with candidemia and Candida on a BAL which tx would you initiate?

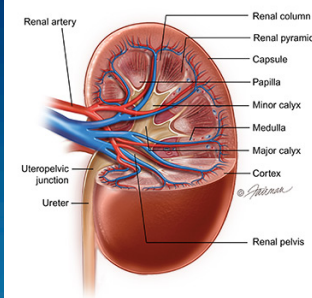
- A. Micafungin
- B. Amphotericin B deoxycholate
- C. Liposomal Ampho B
- D. Isavuconazole
- E. Fluconazole
- F. Voriconazole



# Candida UTI?



# Candiduria



- Third most common nosocomial urine isolate in Europe.
  - After *E Coli* and *Enterococcus*.
- Candiduria  $\neq$  Candidemia or cystitis
- When to tx asymptomatic candiduria?
  - Very low birth weight infants
  - Neutropenic patients
  - Impending urologic procedures.

Treat these patients with candiduria.

# Symptomatic Candiduria

- Hematogenous
  - Renal abscesses presenting with flank pain.
- Ascending
  - DM, female, foley catheter, and anatomic abnormalities.
  - Indolent. Often leads to pyelo or renal fungal ball before being discovered.
  - Change the foley, tx their diabetes, fix their GU reflux.

# Candiduria Treatment

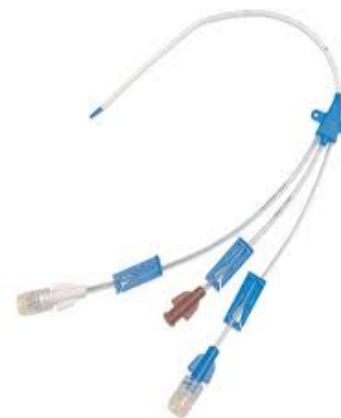
- A gentleman is having lithotripsy for a persistent nephrolithiasis and has candida albicans growing from a recent urine cx. Which would you treat him with?
- A. Micafungin
  - B. Amphotericin B
  - C. Liposomal Amphotericin B
  - D. Voriconazole
  - E. Fluconazole
  - F. Caspofungin

# Candidemia

- 4<sup>th</sup> most common nosocomial cause of BSI.
- Rising prevalence of *C. glabrata* BSI.
- Neutropenic v non-neutropenic candidemia
- Prefer echinocandins but no head to head data to say it's outcomes are superior.
  - Safety profile and efficacy.

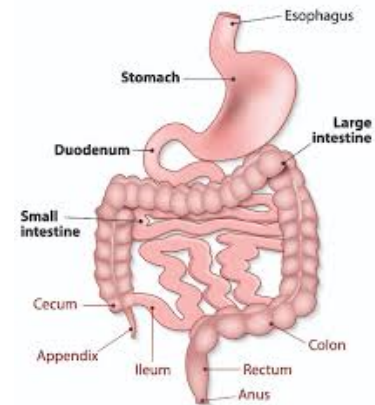
# Non-Neutropenic Candidemia

- Think CVC!
  - 70% of non-neutropenic patients with candidemia have a CVC.
- DM, immunosuppression and TPN.
- Echinocandin, fluconazole, IV or PO, is acceptable alternative or step down.
- Get sensitivities.
- In 5-7 days de-escalate from echinocandin to fluconazole.
- Blood cx QD or QOD until cleared.
- Tx for 2 weeks.



# Neutropenic Candidemia

- Think gut source.
- Echinocandin still first line.
- CVC removal on case by case basis.
- Otherwise treat as for non-neutropenic candidemia



# Candida Endocarditis

- Native valve endocarditis:
  - Liposomal Ampho B +/- 5-FU or high dose echinocandin (micafungin 150 mcg daily).
  - Stepdown to fluc 400 mg daily
  - Valve replacement!
  - If unable to undergo valve replacement then chronic suppressive fluc.
- Prosthetic Valve
  - Same recs.





# References

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