

Aspergillus species

A

Phylum [Division]: Ascomycota [Sac fungi]
Clinicomycological importances :

- **Direct causes:** Subcutaneous mycoses [Hyalohyphomycosis], and Opportunistic fungal infections
- **Indirect causes:** Fungal allergy and Mycotoxicosis [Species dependent]

Transmission route: Penetration [Direct trauma], Inhalation

Beauveria bassiana

B

Phylum [Division]: Ascomycota [Sac fungi]
Clinicomycological importances :

- Entomopathogenic fungi for vector control such as mosquito vectors
- No evidence on the human health effects

Calcofluor white stain

C

Clinicomycological importances :

- Fungal cell wall stain
- A fluorochrome that binds to chitin and cellulose presented in the fungal cell wall, is now commonly used to provide better delineation of fungal elements.

Dermatophytosis

[An infection of the hair, skin, or nails caused by a dermatophyte(s)]

D

Phylum [Division]: Dermatophytes are members of the Ascomycota [Sac fungi]
Clinicomycological importances :

- **Direct causes:** Cutaneous mycoses [Tinea or Ringworm infection]

Transmission route : Contact with contaminated objects and animal's skin or hair

Exophiala species

E

Phylum [Division]: Ascomycota [Sac fungi]
Clinicomycological importances :

- **Direct causes:** Subcutaneous mycoses [Phaeohyphomycosis], and Opportunistic fungal infections

Transmission route : Penetration [Direct trauma]

Fonsecaea species

F

Phylum [Division]: Ascomycota [Sac fungi]
Clinicomycological importances :

- **Direct causes:** Subcutaneous mycoses [Chromoblastomycosis], and Opportunistic fungal infections

Transmission route: Penetration [Direct trauma]

Gömöri Methenamine Silver

[Grocott-Gomori's methenamine silver: GMS stain]

G

Clinicomycological importances :

- Particularly useful in staining carbohydrates
- It is used widely as a histopathological screening assay for fungal organisms.
- Fungal cell walls are outlined by the brown to black color produced by the reduction of silver ions.

Hyaline molds

H

Clinicomycological importances :

- Filamentous form with colorless hyphae when stained with Potassium Hydroxide [KOH] and presented in Blue color after stained with Lactophenol cotton blue [LPCB] such as *Aspergillus*, *Beauveria*, *Penicillium* spp., etc.
- On the contrary, Dematiaceous molds appear as dark brown hyphae after KOH and LPCB staining.

A TO Z

BENCH TO BEDSIDE IN MEDICAL MYCOLOGY

India ink test

I

Clinicomycological importances :

- India ink stain is a common bedside diagnostic tool for *Cryptococcus neoformans*.
- This staining dye used for visualization of fungal capsule in Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF). The particles of ink pigment can not enter the capsule leading to a zone of clearance or "halo" around the cell.

Jock itch

J

Synonym : Tinea cruris is a specific form of ringworm infection caused by dermatophyte fungus affecting the groin, pubic region, adjacent thigh, and perianal areas.
Clinicomycological importances :

- **Pathogenic causes :** Dermatophytes, the most common are *Trichophyton rubrum* and *Epidermophyton floccosum*.
- **Direct causes :** Cutaneous mycoses [Dermatophytosis or Ringworm infection]

Transmission route : Contact with contaminated objects

KOH preparation

[Potassium hydroxide stain]

K

Clinicomycological importances :

- A simple, rapid, non-invasive and accurate medical procedure for diagnosing fungal infections of the skin or nails
- Evaluation is done under a microscope to look for specific characters of the fungus such as Yeast or Mold, Pigmented or Colorless, Septate or Non-septate fungus.

Lomentospora prolificans

L

Phylum [Division]: Ascomycota [Sac fungi]
Clinicomycological importances :

- **Direct causes:** Subcutaneous mycoses [White/Pale grains Eumycetoma], Opportunistic fungal infections [Scedosporiosis]

Transmission route: Penetration [Direct trauma], Aspiration

Malassezia species

[Lipophilic yeasts]

M

Phylum [Division]: Ascomycota [Sac fungi]
Clinicomycological importances :

- **Direct causes :** Superficial mycoses [Pityriasis versicolor]

Transmission route : Non-specific, more closely related to poor personal hygiene and/or abnormally excessive sweating [Hyperhidrosis]

Neoscytalidium species

[Previously known as *Scytalidium* species]

N

Phylum [Division]: Ascomycota [Sac fungi]
Clinicomycological importances :

- **Direct causes :** Onychomycosis [Cutaneous mycoses and Opportunistic fungal infection]

Transmission route : Penetration [Direct trauma], Contact with contaminated objects

Oomycetes

[Saprolegnia spp.]

O

Phylum [Division]: Oomycota [Fungus-like organisms in the kingdom Chromista]
Clinicomycological importances :

- No human health concern [Non-human pathogenic fungus]
- An infection is known as oomycosis.
- According to Saprolegniasis, it referred to a cutaneous infection by a variety of water molds (Oomycetes, Diplomastigomycotina; genera include *Achylya*, *Saprolegnia*, and others).

Penicillium species

P

Phylum [Division]: Ascomycota [Sac fungi]
Clinicomycological importances :

- **Direct causes :** Subcutaneous mycoses [Hyalohyphomycosis], Opportunistic fungal infections [Penicilliosis]
- **Indirect causes :** Fungal allergy and Mycotoxicosis [Species dependent]

Transmission route: Penetration [Direct trauma], Inhalation

Quadrivirus

[Mycovirus that classified into *Quadriviridae* family]

Q

Clinicomycological importances :

- Non-enveloped spherical viruses with quadripartite double-stranded RNA genomes
- Reduced Virulence of the *Aspergillus fumigatus*, but does not cause disease in humans

Transmission route: Transmitted by hyphal anastomosis [Horizontal transmission], and during sporogenesis [Vertical transmission] also known as internal transmission

Rhodotorula species

R

Phylum [Division]: Basidiomycota [mushrooms, puffballs, stinkhorns, bracket fungi]
Clinicomycological importances :

- **Direct causes :** Opportunistic fungal infections [Fungemia]
- Commonly used in wine fermentations, astaxanthin production, etc.

Transmission route : Penetration [Direct trauma]

Scopulariopsis species

S

Phylum [Division]: Ascomycota [Sac fungi]
Clinicomycological importances :

- **Direct causes :** Onychomycosis [Cutaneous mycoses and Opportunistic fungal infection]

Transmission route : Penetration [Direct trauma], Contact with contaminated objects

Trichosporon asahii

T

Phylum [Division]: Basidiomycota [mushrooms, puffballs, stinkhorns, bracket fungi]
Clinicomycological importances :

- **Direct causes :** Superficial mycoses [White piedra]

Transmission route : Non-specific, more closely related to poor personal hygiene

Vegetative hyphae

[Submerged hyphae]

U

Clinicomycological importances :

- Rapid and significant screening to differentiate *Trichophyton* species
- Positive result: Changes from light orange to magenta
 - *Trichophyton mentagrophytes* and *Trichophyton tonsurans*
 - *Cryptococcus* spp., *Corynebacterium* spp., *Helicobacter pylori*, *Yersinia* spp., *Proteus* spp., *Brucella* spp., etc.
- Negative result: Remain light orange [medium retains original color]
 - *Trichophyton rubrum*, *Escherichia* spp., *Shigella* spp., *Salmonella* spp., etc.

Vegetative hyphae

[Submerged hyphae]

V

Clinicomycological importances :

- Hypha/ Hyphae consists of one or more cells surrounded by a tubular cell wall
- Classification based on growth location
 - **Vegetative or Submerged hyphae :** Penetrate across food sources
 - **Aerial hyphae :** Produce asexual reproductive spores

Wood lamp test

[Black light or ultraviolet light test]

W

Clinicomycological importances :

- The chemical responsible for positive fluorescence is a Pteridine
- Particularly useful in the diagnosis of tinea capitis
- Positive results:
 - Bright-green color: *Microsporum audouinii*, *M. canis*, etc.
 - Faint blue color: *Trichophyton schoenleinii*
 - Yellowish-white or copper-orange: *Malassezia furfur*
- Negative results: *Trichophyton tonsurans*, *T. verrucosum*

XTT assay

[The second generation tetrazolium dye]

X

[2,3-bis (2-methoxy-4-nitro-5-sulphophenyl)-5-[(phenylamino)carbonyl]-2H-tetrazolium hydroxide]
Clinicomycological importances :

- Colorimetric assay is based on the reduction of a yellow tetrazolium salt to an orange formazan dye by metabolically active cells
- Commonly used in studies of the fungal biofilm development, drug resistance, yeast viability, cell proliferation, cytotoxicity, and apoptosis assays

Yeast infection

[Candida albicans]

Y

Clinicomycological importances :

- The simplest morphological classification of a fungus is unicellular budding cell [Yeast] and multicellular filamentous fungi [Mold]
 - Molds such as Dermatophytes, *Aspergillus* spp., *Penicillium* spp., etc.
 - Yeast such as *Candida* spp., *Cryptococcus* spp., *Saccharomyces* spp., etc.

Zygomycetes

Z

Phylum [Division]: Zygomycota [Pin molds]
Clinicomycological importances :

- **Direct causes :** Subcutaneous mycoses [Zygomycosis] and Opportunistic fungal infections

Transmission route : Penetration [Direct trauma]

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