



Environmental Epidemiology and Prevention of Mould Infection

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& Pathology**

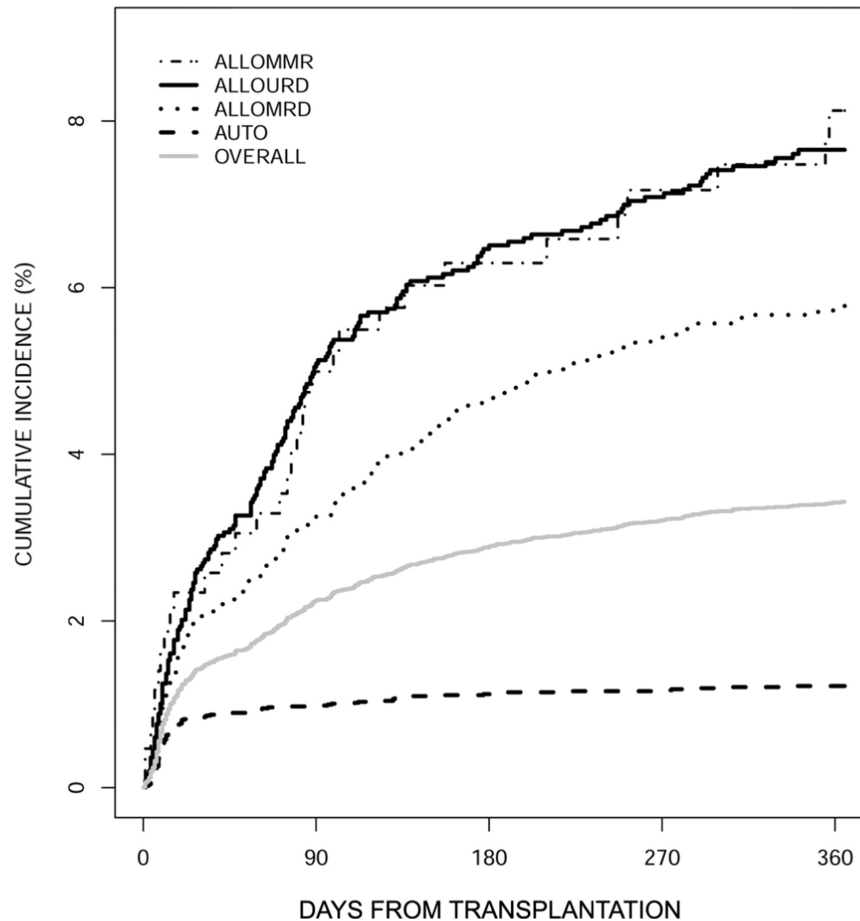
**University of Texas Health Science Center
at San Antonio**

Disclosures:

Consultant to Durata

Spouse: Consultant to Astellas, Toyama, Merck, Durata

Cumulative incidence curves for IFI HSCT recipients in TRANSNET.



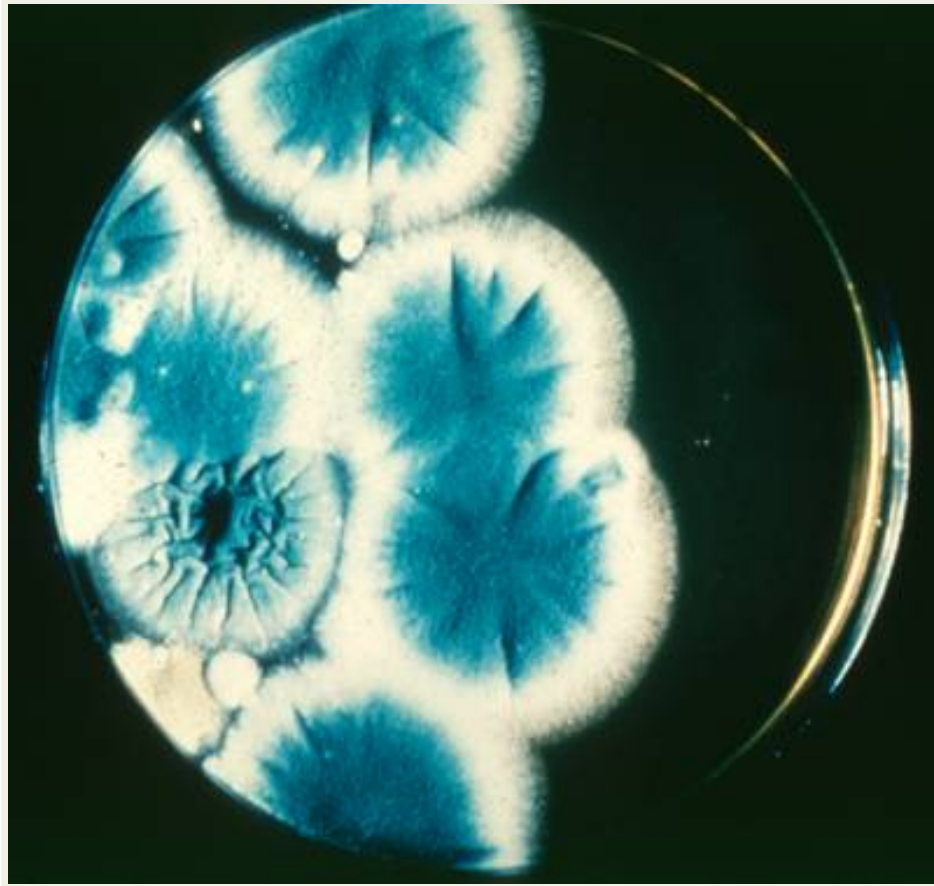
Allogeneic mismatched related
Allogeneic unrelated
Allogeneic matched related
Autologous

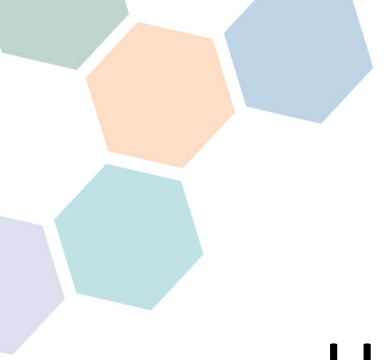
IFI by Solid Organ Transplant Type

TRANSNET

IFI type	Kidney (n = 332)	Liver (n = 378)	Pancreas (n = 128)	Lung (n = 248)	Heart (n = 99)	Small bowel (n = 22)
Candidiasis	164 (49)	255 (68)	97 (76)	56 (23)	48 (49)	19 (85)
Aspergillosis	47 (14)	42 (11)	6 (5)	109 (44)	23 (23)	0 (0)
Zygomycosis	8 (2)	9 (2)	0 (0)	8 (3)	3 (3)	0 (0)
Other mold	10 (3.0)	9 (2.4)	4 (3.1)	49 (19.8)	7 (7.1)	0 (0.0)
Unspecified mold	7 (2.1)	8 (2.1)	0 (0.0)	7 (2.8)	2 (2.0)	0 (0.0)
Cryptococcosis	49 (15)	24 (6)	6 (5)	6 (2)	10 (10)	1 (5)
Endemic mycoses	33 (10)	17 (5)	8 (6)	3 (1)	3 (3)	0 (0)
Pneumocystosis	5 (1)	0 (0)	1 (1)	4 (2)	3 (3)	0 (0)
Other yeast	6 (1.8)	9 (2.4)	5 (3.9)	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	1 (5)
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Invasive Aspergillosis





Aspergillus

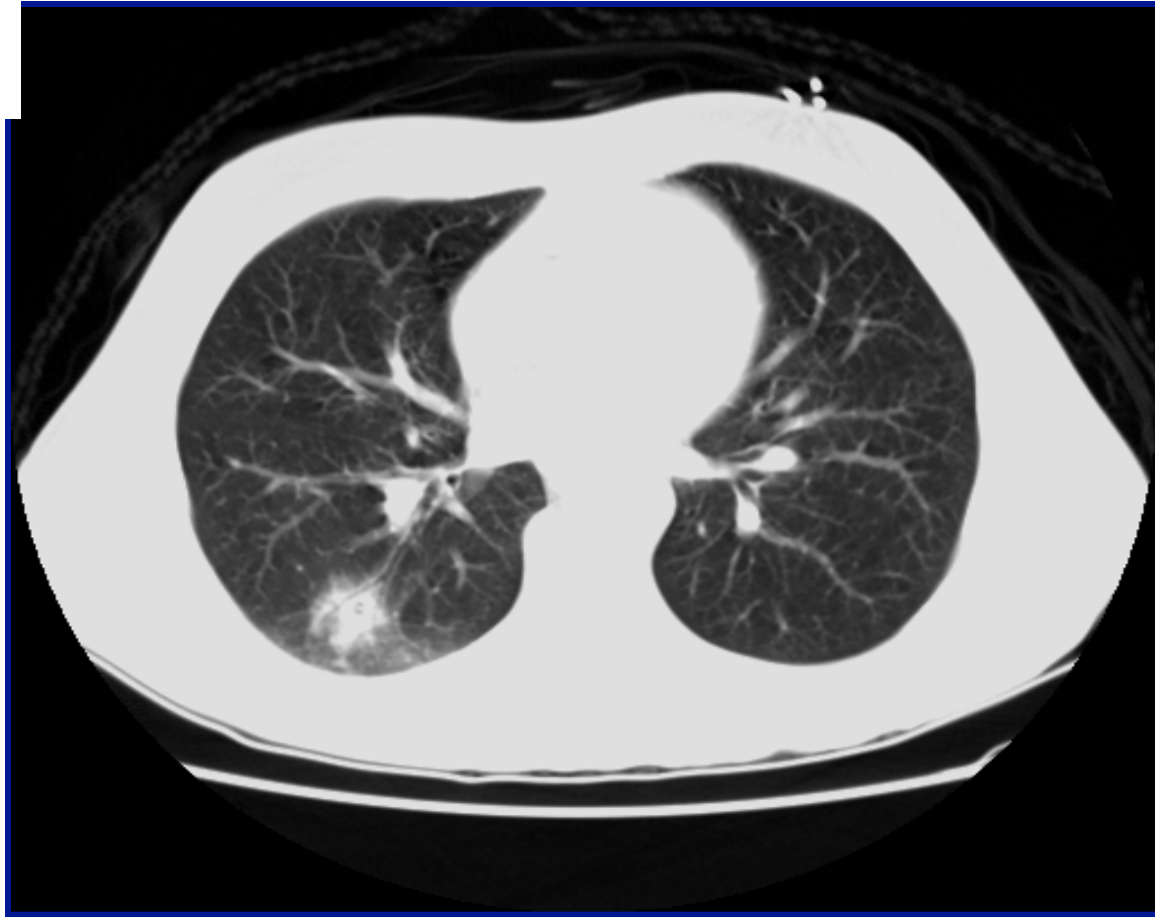
Ubiquitous mold:

- Soil, water, decaying vegetation

Sources

- Unfiltered air/ventilation systems
- Dust from renovation/construction
- Environmental sources
- Food/plants
- Water supply

Halo Sign





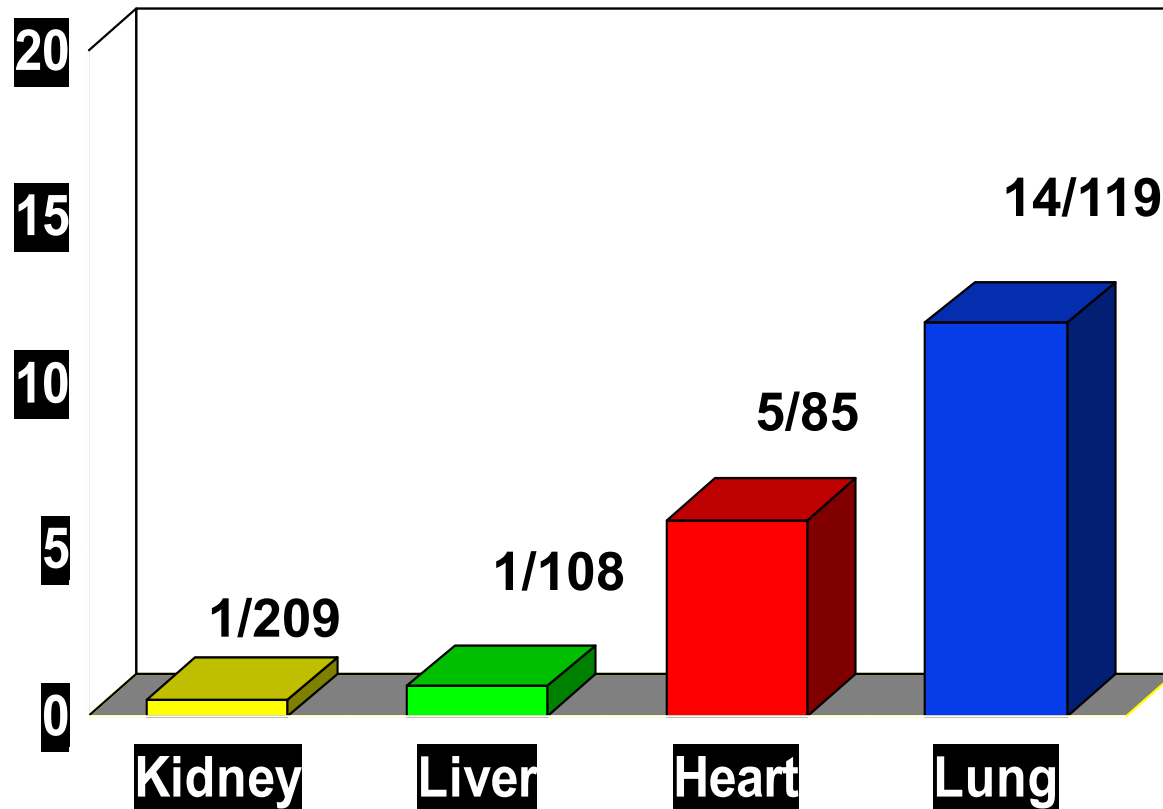
Aspergillus and Construction

- Association between aspergillosis outbreaks and construction
- Environmental controls associated with decreased risk
 - ✓ Maintain negative pressure
 - ✓ Install appropriate barriers
 - ✓ Control traffic in construction areas
 - ✓ Monitoring of airborne spore count

Arnow 1991; Wald 1997; Cornet 1999; Patterson 2000;
Chang 2008; Berger 2011

Aspergillosis in Solid Organ Transplant

UTHSCSA Experience





Interventions: Aspergillosis in SOT

- Environmental
 - Immediate
 - Removal of carpet, plants
 - HEPA filtration
 - Construction barriers, precautions
 - Long term - New unit
 - Point of use HEPA filtration
 - Positive pressure rooms
 - 15 air changes/hour

Patterson JE et al. Transplant Infect Dis 2000;2:22-8



Interventions: Aspergillosis in SOT

- Prophylaxis (lung and heart txn)
 - Itraconazole 200 mg BID (capsule)
X 3 months
 - Monitor levels
 - Itraconazole 200 mg q d (oral solution)
 - Enhanced bioavailability

Aspergillosis in Solid Organ Transplant

UTHSCSA

Rate	Before (%) 1991-92	After (%) 1993-98	p value
<i>Aspergillus</i> infection SOT	9.4 (8/85)	1.5 (7/452)	p<.05
Attrib. MR in SOT	8.2 (7/85)	1.8 (8/439)	p<.05
Infection/colonization in lung txn	42 (14/33)	22.5 (14/62)	p<.05
Early attrib. MR in lung txn	15 (5/33)	3.2 (2/62)	p<.05



Aspergillus and Construction

- Multi-barrier concept
 - Seal windows and doors adjacent to construction
 - Dust protection walls erected
 - Facility air positive pressure
 - Doors next to construction site closed
 - Shift entrance
 - Walkways protected from demolition
 - 3-staged external air filtration, including HEPA
 - Soil moistened to minimize dust generation
 - Airborne-particle sampling

Berger Am J Infect Control 2011

Environmental Infection Control MMWR 2003

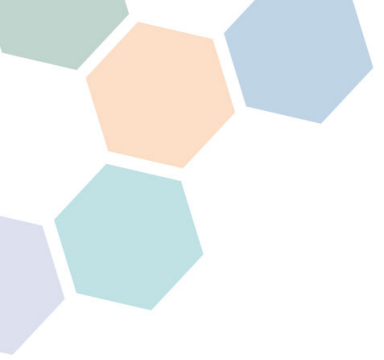
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Phaeohyphomycosis





Phaeohyphomycoses

- Etiologic agents
 - *Alternaria* spp., *Bipolaris* spp., *Curvalaria* spp., *Exserohilum* spp., *Exophila* spp.
- Mycotic infections caused by dematiaceous fungi (melanin in cell walls)
- Fontana Masson stain
- Tropical, subtropical and temperate climates



Phaeohyphomycoses in Organ Transplant

- 79% skin/soft tissue or joint
 - 7% MR
 - Predominantly *Exophiala* spp.
- 21% systemic invasive infections
 - 57% MR
 - Brain abscesses (AmB cured 2/5)
 - *Ochroconis* spp., *Dactylaria* spp.

Singh 1997



Phaeohyphomycoses in TRANSNET

Table 2. Site of infection by transplant type.

Site	Stem cell transplant n = 26 (%)	Solid organ transplant n = 30 (%)
Pulmonary	15 (57.7)	8 (26.7)
Disseminated	12 (46.2)	19 (63.3)
Cutaneous/SC	6 (23.1)	16 (53.3)
Sinus	6 (23.1)	3 (10)
Bloodstream	3 (11.5)	0
CNS	1 (3.85)	0

TRANSNET

Table 3. Organisms causing phaeohyphomycosis.

Organism Genus	Number (%) n = 56	Number of deaths (n)
<i>Alternaria</i>	18 (32.1)	6 (33.3)
<i>Exophiala</i>	6 (10.7)	0
<i>Cladophialophora</i>	5 (8.9)	1 (20)
<i>Scopulariopsis</i>	5 (8.9)	2 (40)
<i>Curvularia</i>	4 (7.1)	1 (25)
<i>Phialemonium</i>	4 (7.1)	1 (25)
<i>Exserohilum</i>	3 (5.4)	1 (33.3)
Sterile Black Mold	3 (5.4)	0
<i>Microascus</i>	2 (3.6)	0
<i>Bipolaris</i>	1 (1.8)	1 (100)
<i>Chaetomium</i>	1 (1.8)	1 (100)
<i>Cladosporium</i>	1 (1.8)	0
<i>Ochroconis</i>	1 (1.8)	0
<i>Phaeoacremonium</i>	1 (1.8)	0
<i>Rhinocladiella</i>	1 (1.8)	0

Alternaria in SOT

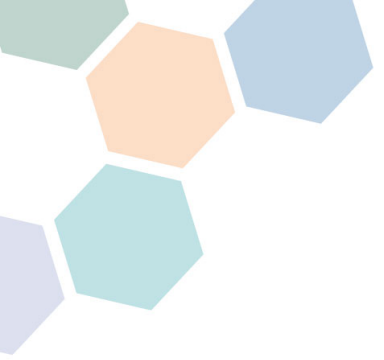


Boyce. Transplant Inf Dis 2010



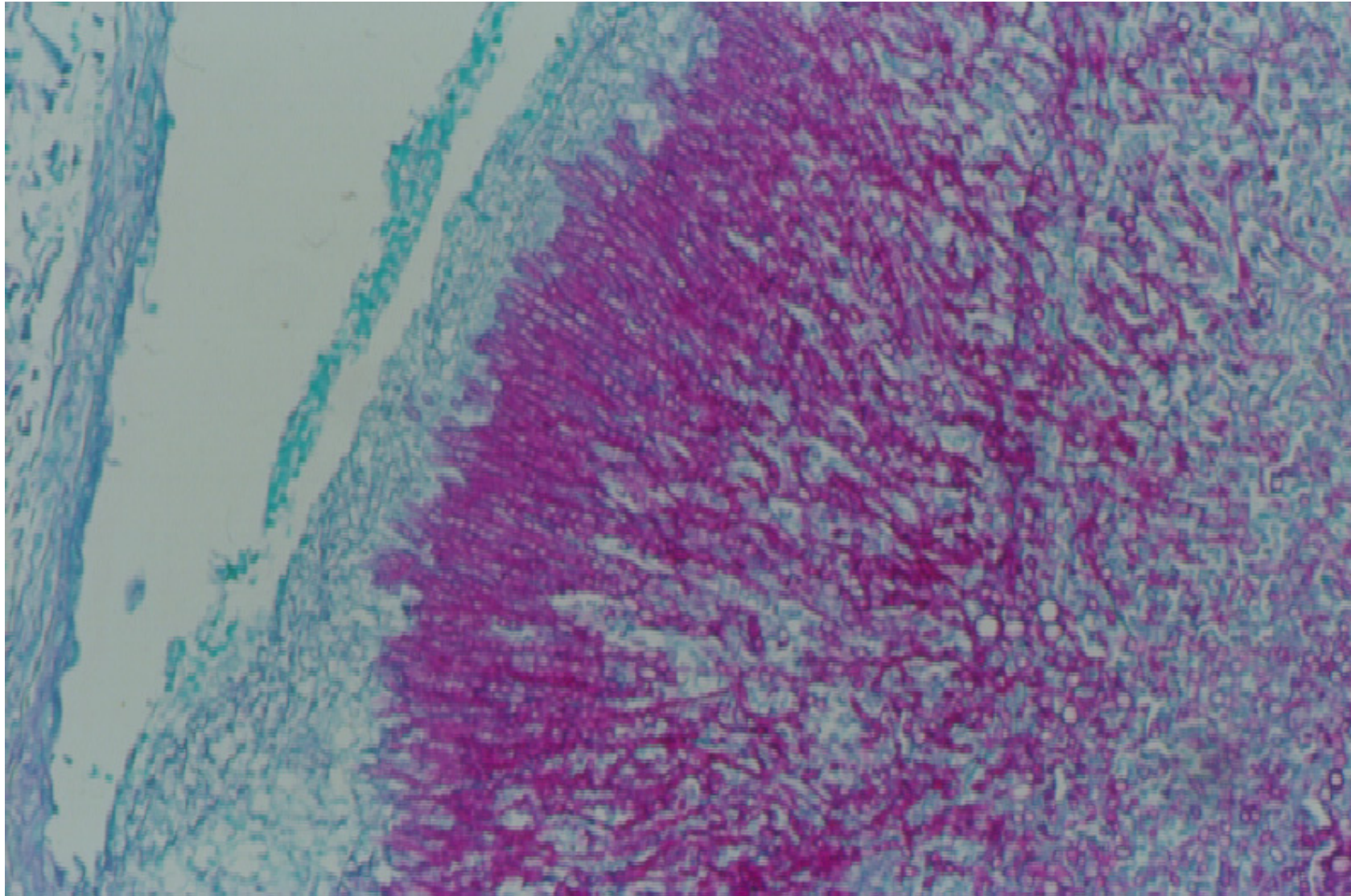
Case

- 50 yo man with cardiogenic shock
- Heart transplant
 - ventilator pneumonia
 - *Ps. aeruginosa* sepsis
- Persistent sepsis, afebrile
- Focal neurologic findings, brain lesions
- Died
 - Autopsy performed

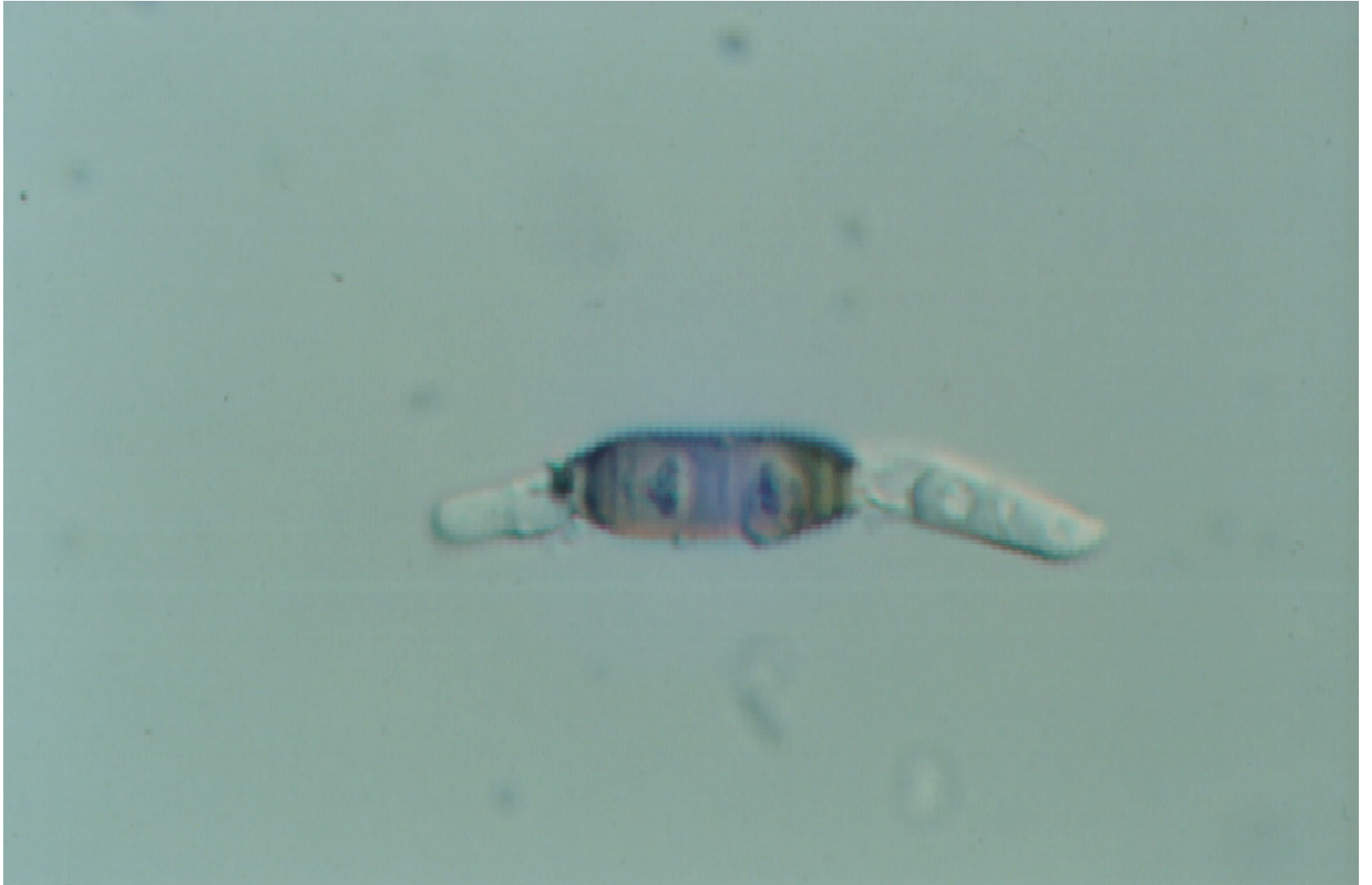


Case

- Autopsy
 - Disseminated fungal infection
 - Lungs, brain, kidneys, liver
 - “*Aspergillus*”
- Post-mortem and pre-mortem cultures
 - *Bipolaris* spp.



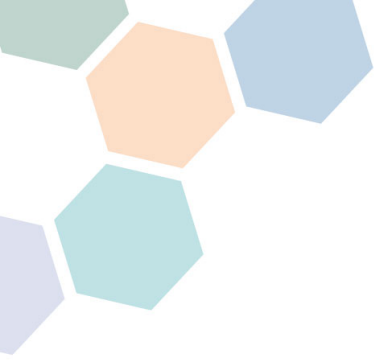
Bipolaris





Case

- 60 year old man end-stage liver disease
- Liver and kidney transplant
- Complications:
 - hematoma, renal insufficiency
 - persistent fever
 - brownish-black wound exudate
- Wound culture
 - *Exserohilum* spp.
- Evacuated hematoma
 - *Enterococcus* spp.



Case

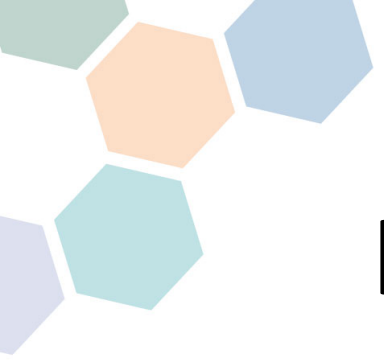
- Recovered after
 - Wound irrigation and local debridement
 - Liposomal amphotericin
 - Evacuation of hematoma
 - Broad-spectrum antimicrobials
- Epidemiologic investigation done

Floor sweeper



Floor Sweeper with dust guard/HEPA





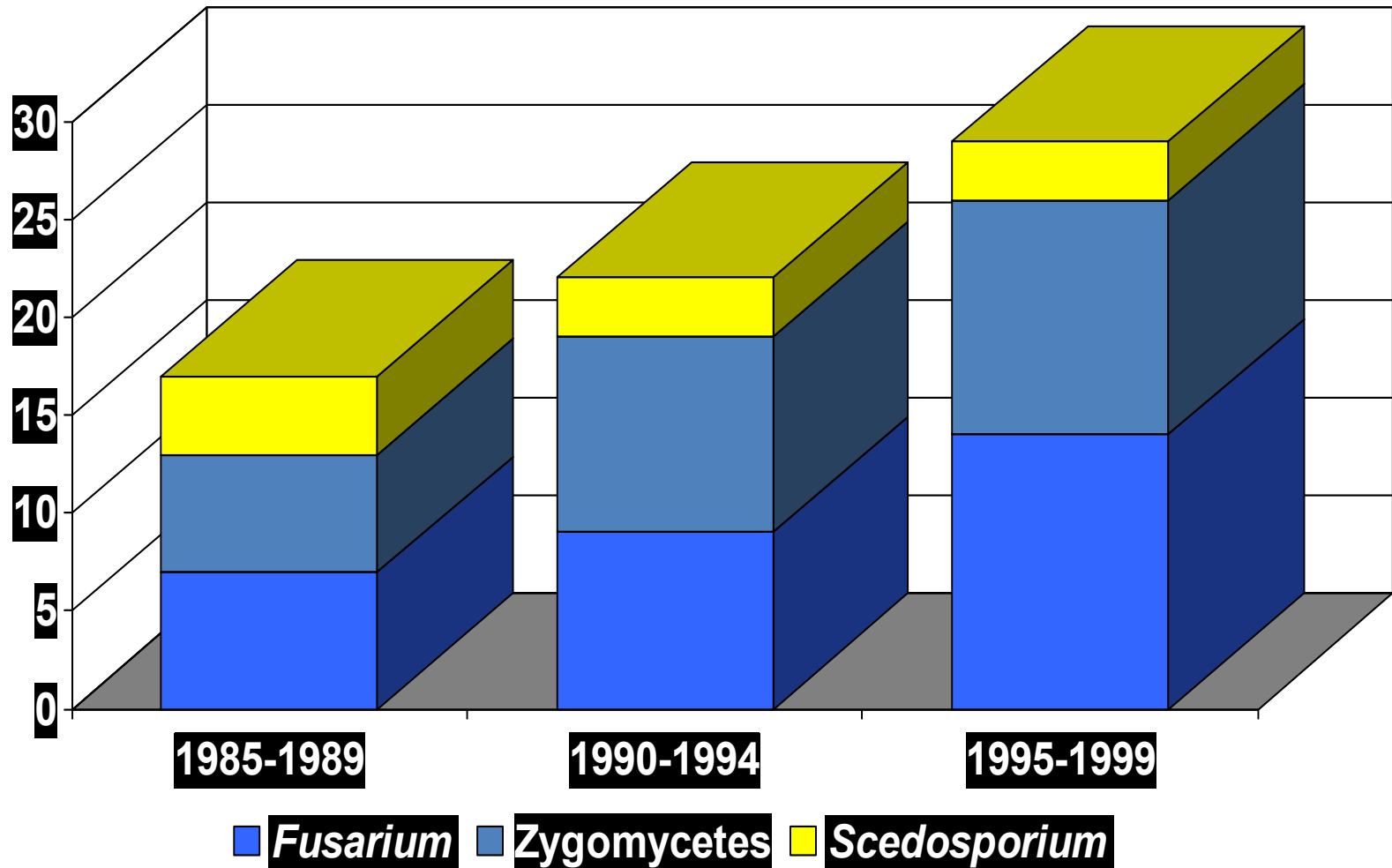
Invasive Fungal Dermatitis

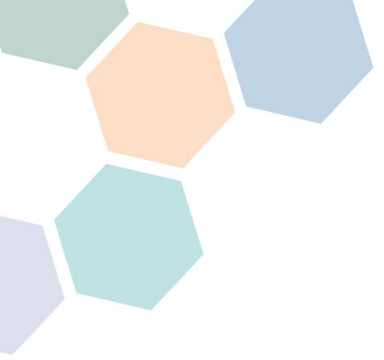
- ELBW infants (≤ 1000 gm)
- Erosive, crusting skin lesions
- High rate of systemic fungal infections (69%)
- Etiologies
 - *C. albicans*
 - Other *Candida* spp.
 - *Aspergillus*
 - *Trichosporon beigelii*
 - *Curvularia* spp., *Bipolaris* spp.

Invasive fungal dermatitis



Non-*Aspergillus* Moulds in Marrow Transplantation





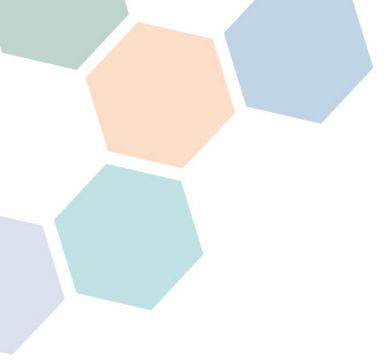
Emergence of Zygomycetes in allogeneic HSCT recipients

Before introduction of voriconazole	Among patients receiving voriconazole
2 of 370 in 32 months (0.5%) ¹	4 of 124 in 10 months (3.2%) ¹
0 in 36 months ²	4 of 45 in <12 months (8.9%) ²
	6 of 139 in 60 months (4.3%) ³

¹Marty et al. *N Engl J Med* 2004; 350:950-2

²Siwek et al. *Clin Infect Dis* 2004; 39:584-7

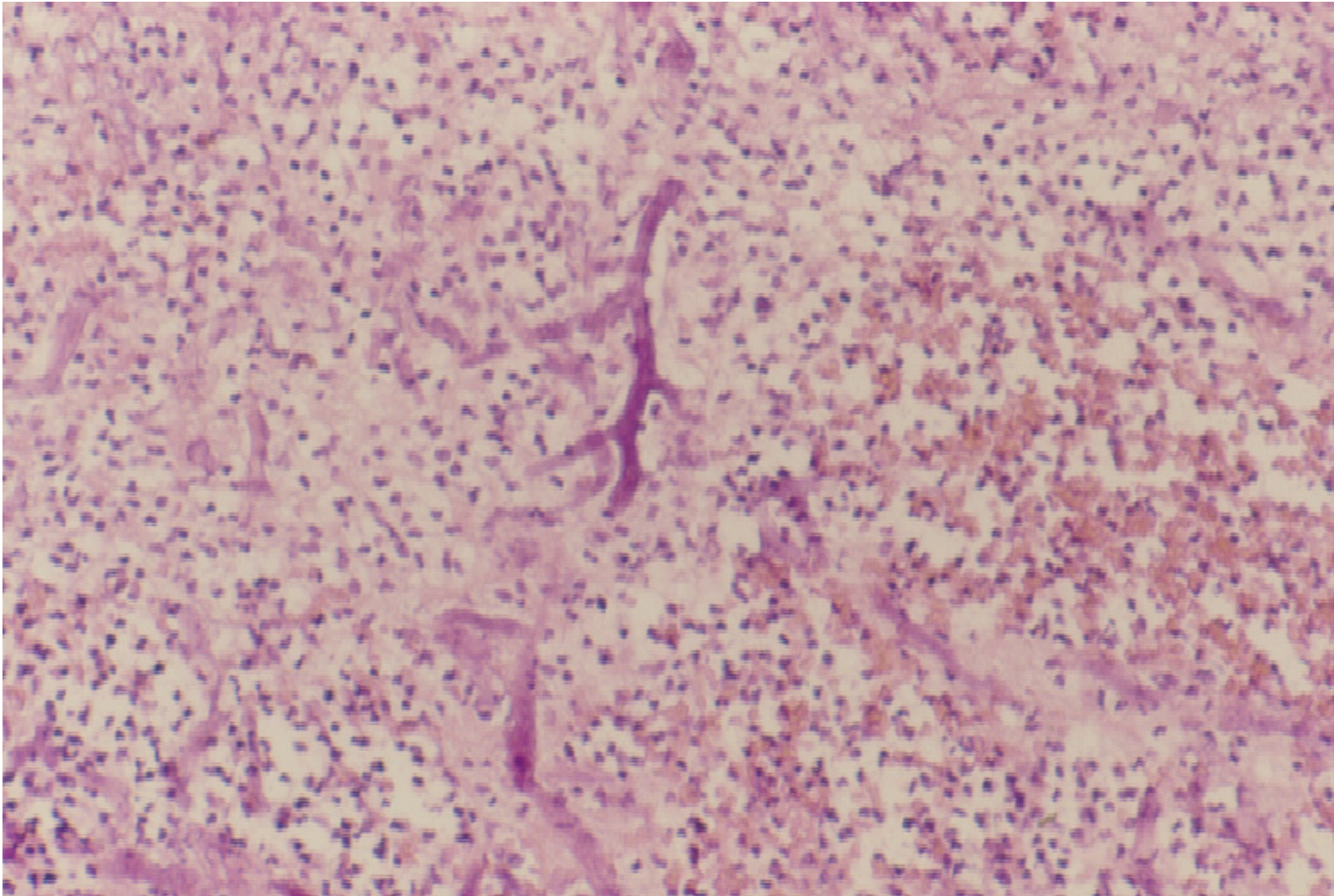
³Imhof et al. *Clin Infect Dis* 2004; 39:743-6

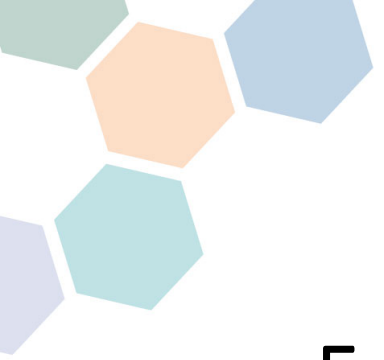


Case

- 60 yo man in SICU s/p IABP
- Persistent erythema/edema L groin after removal of IABP
- Cultures + *Serratia marcescens*
- Poor response to therapy
- Debridement X 2

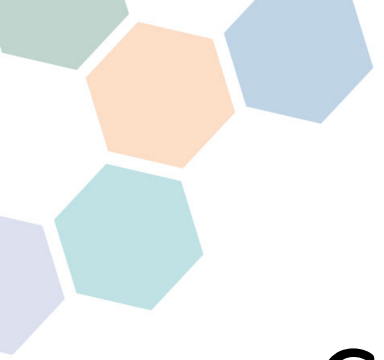
Zygomycosis (*Rhizopus oryzae*)





Rhizopus delmar outbreak

- 5 cases, 11 months
- All fatal
- Childrens' hospital
- Skin sites
- Association w hospital linens
 - Culture positive
- Avoid environmental contamination



Rhizopus spp. Outbreaks

- Contaminated environment
 - Adhesive bandages
 - Hospital linen
- Skin entry, devices
 - Immunocompetent
 - Immunocompromised



Fusariosis and Hospital Water

- *Fusarium* infections in an oncology center
 - Investigation
 - *Fusarium* isolated from 57% cultures
 - Sink drains, faucet aerators, shower heads, water tank
 - Molecular typing
 - Some patient isolates matched environmental isolates



Aspergillus and Hospital Water

- *Aspergillus* detected in water supply
 - Water-related surfaces (7%)
 - Water samples (24%)
 - Water tank lines, shower drains, shower heads, toilet bowls
 - Higher concentrations in air from bathrooms
- Genetic similarity of one environmental isolate with a patient isolate

Anaissie. Clin Infect Dis 2002;34:780-9



Healthcare-associated Mould Infections

Hosts:

Immunocompetent & Immunocompromised

Etiologies:

- *Aspergillus* spp.
- Phaeohyphomycoses
 - *Exserohilum*, *Bipolaris*, others
- *Mucorales* spp.
- *Fusarium* spp.
- *Scedosporium apiosperma*

Preventive Measures

- Protective environment in hospital for high risk patients BMT, severely granulocytopenic
- Minimize fungal spore counts
 - Point-of-use HEPA filtration
 - High rates of room air exchanges (> 12 AC/hr)
 - Directed airflow
 - Positive room air pressure relative to corridor
 - Well-sealed rooms
- Prevention of exposure to construction
- Remove plants, flowers, carpet from rooms
- Use of copper-8-quinolinolate

Preventive Measures

Prevention of exposure to construction

- Seal off transplant unit from construction site
- Clean newly constructed areas before patients enter
- Minimize aerosols
 - HEPA-filtered vacuums
 - Premoistened cloth wipes and mop heads
- Leave room only for essential procedures
- Pt use N95 mask when leaving room during periods of construction
 - And/or avoid areas of construction
- Environmental cultures - not routine

Dust Control - Contractor Issues



Dust Control - Contractor Issues



Dust Control - Maintenance Issues





Environmental Controls

- Performance measures
 - Infection control risk assessment (ICRA)
 - Interprofessional team
 - Infection control, Engineering, Clinicians
 - Negative pressure in work zones
 - Positive pressure high risk areas
 - Provide construction crews entrances and services
 - Clean work zones daily
 - Frequent inspections for compliance
 - Include requirements in contract

Environmental Infection Control
MMWR 2003



Surveillance

- Active surveillance for invasive mould infections in immunocompromised pts
- Review microbiology data
- Periodic review of histopathologic and postmortem data
- If case(s) found
 - Epidemiologic investigation
 - Environmental inspection
 - Air sampling (not settle plates)

Preventive Measures

- Outside hospital
 - Chemoprophylaxis
 - Avoid exposure
 - Dusty environments
 - Construction
 - Chicken coops, caves
 - Prophylaxis
 - Avoid foods containing mould
(blue cheese, pepper)

CDC guidelines for prevention of pneumonia, 2003;
MMWR 2000



Approach to Fungal Infections

Prevention

- Prospective surveillance
- Prophylaxis
- Pre-emptive therapy

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