

Mycotic Diseases

Principal Investigator: Mrs. Yupin Charoenvit, M.S.

OBJECTIVE: This laboratory continues to conduct routine examination of fungal specimens. This permits us to maintain a highly trained technologist and to manufacture adequate media for any unusual outbreak of fungal disease.

DESCRIPTION: Specimens are submitted from local Thai Hospital and from the US Hospital in Bangkok. They are inoculated onto appropriate media.

PROGRESS: During the past year we have examined specimens from 65 patients. From these patients we have identified 22 opportunistic fungi and dermatophytes. These data are presented in Tables 1 and 2.

SUMMARY: Skin diseases due to fungi are a major source of lost man hours in any military operation in tropical regions. It is necessary that this laboratory maintain a capability to culture and identify these agents and to train other technicians to work in mycology laboratories.

Table 1.
Mycology Specimens from Thai Patients and other Sources at Routine Laboratory
(1 March 1970 — 31 March 1971)

Sources of Specimens	Total No. Examined	No. of Negative Cultures	No. of Non-Pathogenic Fungi Isolated	No. of Positive cultures
Body (Trunk, Face, Arms, legs)	5	5	—	—
Foot	5	1	2	<u>Trichophyton rubrum</u> 1 <u>Trichophyton mentagrophytes</u> 1
Groin	3	—	1	<u>Trichophyton mentagrophytes</u> 1 <u>Candida albicans</u> 1
Hand	2	2	—	—
Nails	2	1	—	<u>Candida species</u> 1
Neck	1	1	—	—
Sputum	3	1	—	<u>Candida albicans</u> 2
Scalp	1	1	—	—
Tissue from aortic valve	1	1	—	—
Vagina swab	1	1	—	—
Cerebrospinal fluid	4	3	—	<u>Cryptococcus neoformans</u> 1
Cat's brain tissue	1	—	—	<u>Cryptococcus neoformans</u> 1
Dog's skin	1	1	—	—
Total	30	18	3	9

Table 2.
Mycology Specimens from U.S. Nationals Patients at Routine Laboratory
(1 March 1970 — 31 March 1971)

Sources of Specimens	Total No. Examined	No. of Negative Culturs	No. of Non-Pathogenic Fungi Isolated	No. of Positive cultures
Body (Trunk, face, arms, legs)	15	7	2	<u>Candida albicans</u> 2 <u>Candida species</u> 3 <u>Trichophyton mentagrophytes</u> 1
Foot	1	1	—	—
Scalp	3	2	1	—
Nails	3	2	1	—
Ear	1	1	—	—
Groin	1	—	—	<u>Trichophyton mentagrophytes</u> 1
Hands	2	2	—	—
Sputum	5	—	1	<u>Candida albicans</u> 2 <u>Candida species</u> 2
Bone Marrow	1	1	—	—
Lips	1	—	—	<u>Candida albicans</u> 1
Cerebrospinal fluid	1	1	—	—
Stool	1	—	—	<u>Candida albicans</u> 1
Total	35	17	5	13