

Mycotic Diseases

Principal Investigator: M. Talmage M'cMinn, CPT, MSC

OBJECTIVE: This laboratory routinely conducts mycologic examination of clinical specimens submitted from various sources throughout Thailand.

BACKGROUND: While no active mycological investigations were undertaken during the reporting period, a sufficient quantity of specimens were studied to insure an adequate exposure of our technicians to examination techniques. Such service to outside clinical facilities enables this laboratory to monitor mycotic diseases in Thailand, to maintain adequately trained technicians, and to insure media and reagent rotation.

A stock of typical fungal cultures enables this laboratory to train medical technicians sent to us for such training from throughout Thailand.

RESULTS: During the past year, we have examined 122 specimens. The majority of these specimens came from the US Army Hospital in Bangkok, others from the Thai Army Hospital in Bangkok, and some 25 specimens were referred to this facility from hospitals throughout Thailand. From these 122 specimens, 42 pathogenic fungi were recovered, the majority (23) being *Candida albicans*. Table 1 presents the results of these examinations.

Table 1.
Results of Examinations of Specimens Submitted
for Pathogenic Fungi
1 April 1972 - 1 March 1973

Source	Number of Specimens	Negative for Fungi	Non Pathogenic Fungi Isolated	Positive Cultures	Total/from US personnel
Body	54	13	11	<i>Candida albicans</i>	4/2*
				<i>Trichophyton rubrum</i>	21/0
				<i>Microsporium gypseum</i>	2/1
				<i>Epidermophyton floccosom</i>	2/0*
				<i>Trichophyton mentagrophytes</i>	1/0
Hair	3	2		<i>Trichophyton rubrum</i>	1/0
Ear	6	2	3	<i>Candida albicans</i>	1/1
Hand	5	1	1	<i>Candida albicans</i>	2/1
				<i>Trichophyton rubrum</i>	1/0
Nail	24	6	8	<i>Microsporium audoini</i>	1/1
				<i>Candida albicans</i>	3/1
				<i>Trichophyton rubrum</i>	6/0
Skull	1	1			
Sputum	8	2	2	<i>Candida albicans</i>	4/3
Foot	17	2	5	<i>Microsporium gypseum</i>	1/1
				<i>Epidermophyton floccosom</i>	1/1
				<i>Trichophyton rubrum</i>	1/0
				<i>Trichophyton mentagrophytes</i>	4/0
				<i>Candida albicans</i>	3/0
Leg	2			<i>Trichophyton rubrum</i>	1/0
				<i>Microsporium gypseum</i>	1/0

* Two isolates from one specimen

Table 1. (Cont.)

Source	Number of Specimens	Negative for Fungi	Non Pathogenic Fungi Isolated	Positive Cultures	Total/from US personnel
Eagle blood	3	1	2		
Gibbon lung	1			<i>Actinomyces bovis</i>	1/0
Air	11	1	10		
Vagina	3	1		<i>Candida albicans</i>	2/2
Scrotal hair	3	3			
Pus	3		3		
Pleural fluid	1	1			
Cerebrospinal Fluid	7	7			
Thoracentesis	4	4			
Yeast for identification	10		2	<i>Candida albicans</i>	8/8
Sinus cavity	1			<i>Candida albicans</i>	1/1