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Fondazione Policlinico Universitario A. Gemelli
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

La diagnosi delle infezioni micotiche invasive nel paziente immunocompromesso: attualità e prospettive

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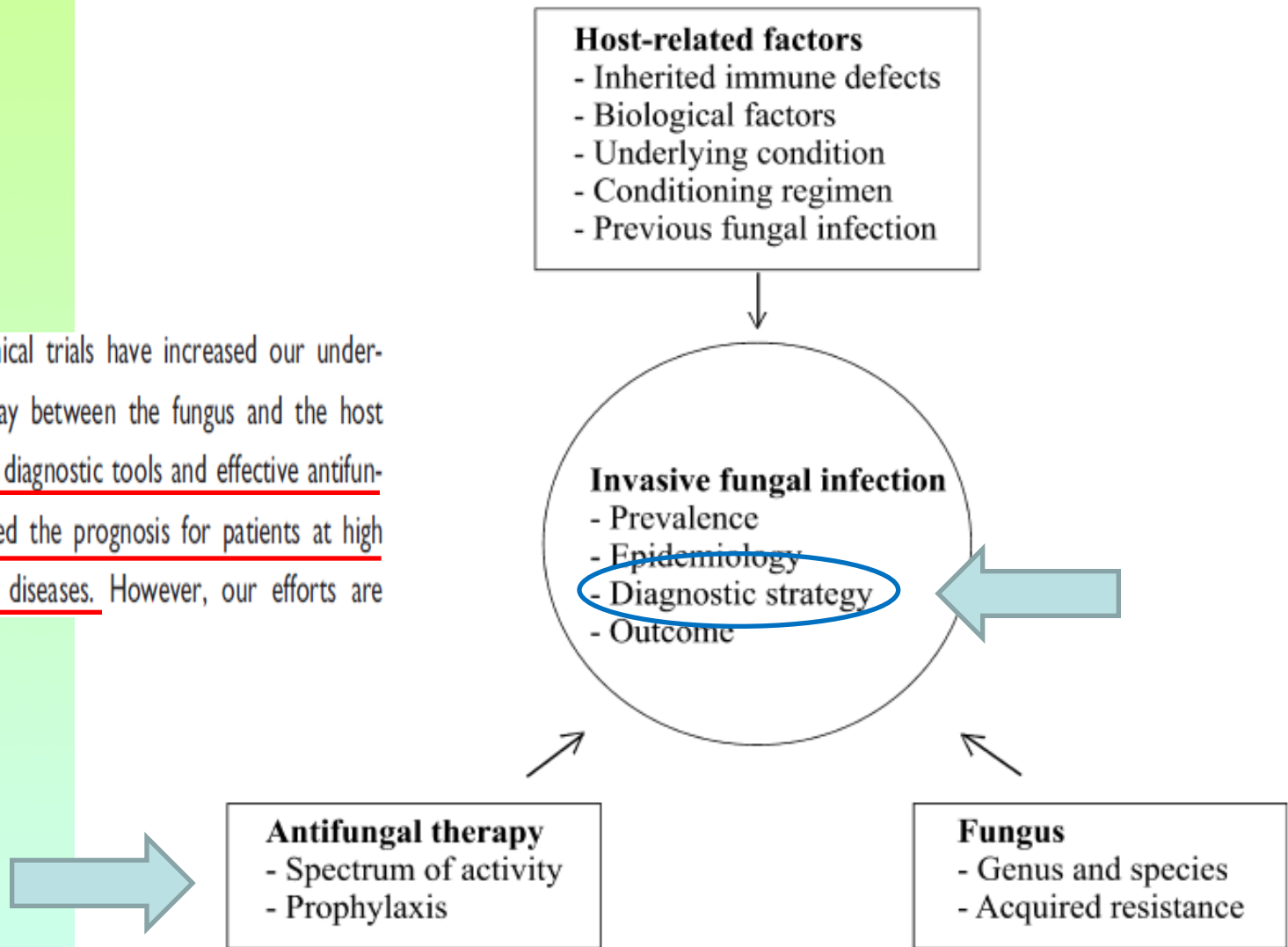
Segreteria Scientifica

Patrizia Burra

Paolo Antonio Grossi

Giuseppe Ippolito

Basic research and clinical trials have increased our understanding of the interplay between the fungus and the host (Fig. 1). More accurate diagnostic tools and effective antifungal drugs have improved the prognosis for patients at high risk of invasive fungal diseases. However, our efforts are



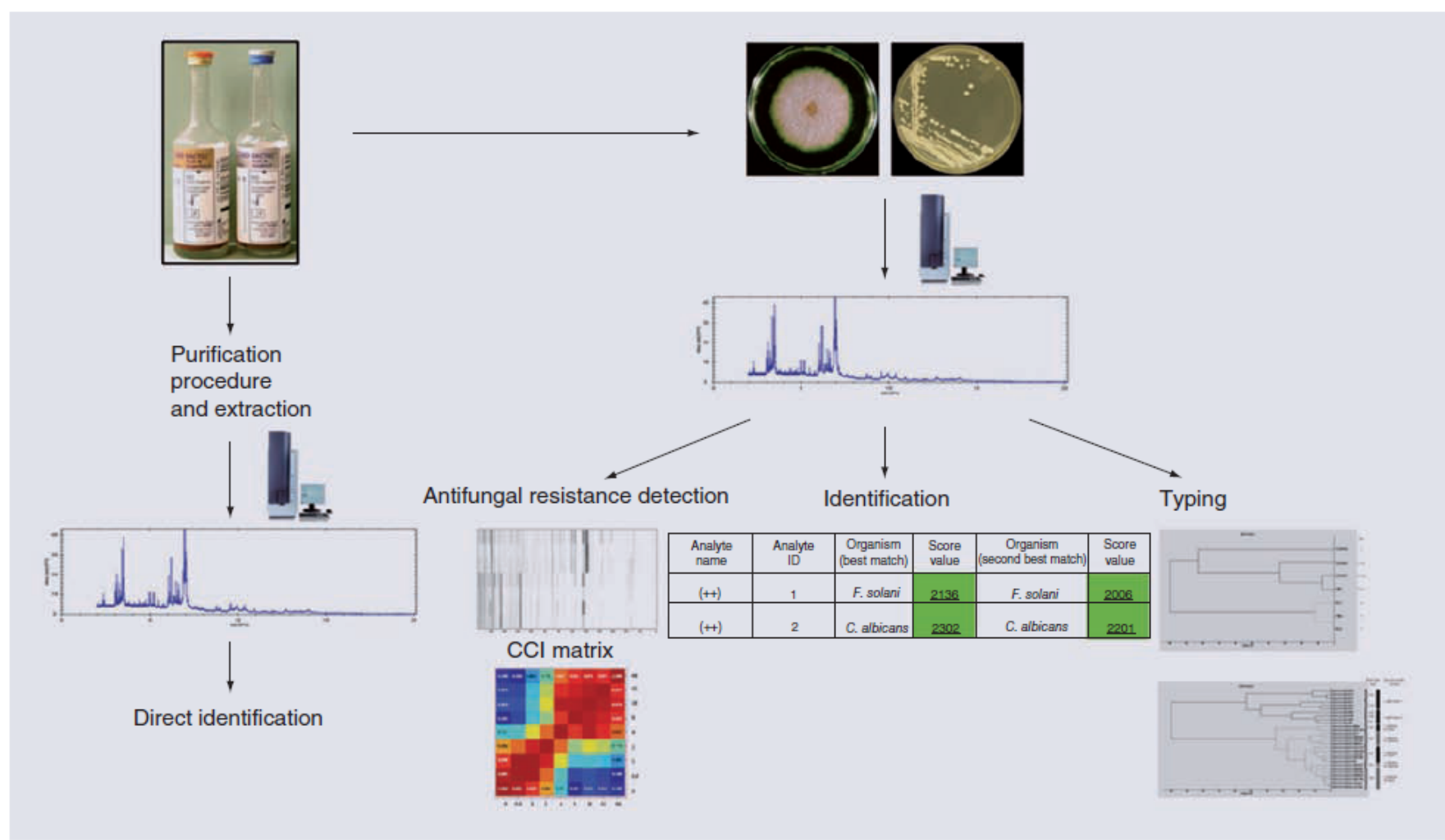


Figure 1. The role of MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry in clinical mycology diagnostics. Principal applications such as identification, typing and antifungal susceptibility testing of yeasts and molds starting from colonies, and direct identification of positive blood cultures are shown.

CCI: Composite correlation index.

Investigation of the First Seven Reported Cases of *Candida auris*, a Globally Emerging Invasive, Multidrug-Resistant Fungus — United States, May 2013–August 2016

TABLE. Characteristics of the first seven cases of *Candida auris* identified in the United States—May 2013–August 2016

Patient	Isolation month/ year	State	Site of <i>C. auris</i> isolation	Underlying medical condition(s)	Outcome*
1	May 2013	New York	Blood	Respiratory failure requiring high-dose corticosteroids	Died
2	July 2015	New Jersey	Blood	Brain tumor and recent villous adenoma resection	Died
3	April 2016	Maryland	Blood	Hematologic malignancy and bone marrow transplant	Died
4	April 2016	New York	Blood	Hematologic malignancy	Died
5	May 2016	Illinois	Blood	Short gut syndrome requiring total parenteral nutrition and high-dose corticosteroid use	Survived
6	July 2016	Illinois	Urine	Paraplegia with long-term, indwelling Foley catheter	Survived
7	August 2016	New York	Ear	Severe peripheral vascular disease and skull base osteomyelitis	Survived

* Mortality was not necessarily attributable to *C. auris* infection.

Schelenz et al. *Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Control* (2016) 5:35
DOI: 10.1186/s13756-016-0132-5

Antimicrobial Resistance
and Infection Control

RESEARCH

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First hospital outbreak of the globally emerging *Candida auris* in a European hospital

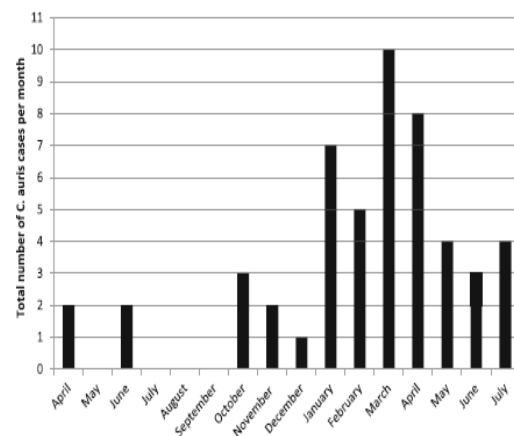


Fig. 1 New cases of *C. auris* per month. Total number of monthly new cases of *C. auris* are listed from the 1 April 2015 to the end of July 2016

Optimized Use of the MALDI BioTyper System and the FilmArray BCID Panel for Direct Identification of Microbial Pathogens from Positive Blood Cultures

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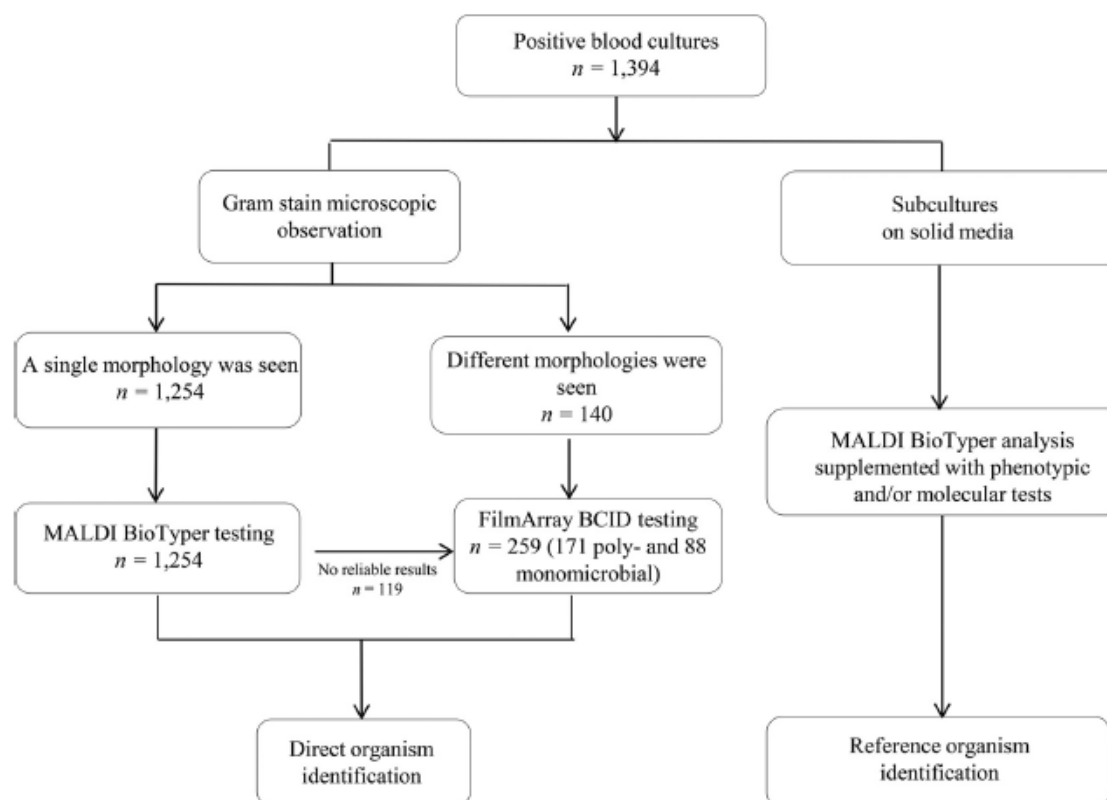
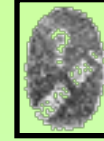
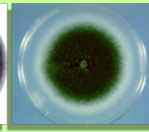
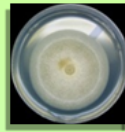
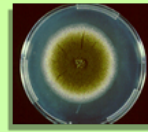


FIG 1 Bloodstream infection diagnostic workflow using direct (MALDI-TOF MS [MALDI BioTyper system] and/or FilmArray BCID panel) or culture-based (reference) microbial identification methods on positive blood culture (BC) broths. According to the developed algorithm, the FilmArray BCID panel assays were performed on BC broths that revealed multiple morphologies by Gram staining and in all cases for which MALDI BioTyper analysis failed to provide reliable results (i.e., identifications with scores of <1.8, multiple hits in the top 10 matches list with scores ranging from >1.7 to <1.8 that were suggestive of the presence of >1 microbial species, and identifications of organisms, such as *S. pneumoniae*). MALDI-TOF MS, matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization–time of flight mass spectrometry; BCID, blood culture identification.

Variabili correlate alla lunghezza dell'ospedalizzazione nei pazienti con sepsi – UCSC – Analisi multivariata

	HR	IC 95%	<i>P</i>
Number of comorbidities	-2.29	-4.18; -0.41	0.017
Medicine ward	5.71	1.87; 9.54	0.004
MALDI+call	-4.61	-4.18; -0.41	0.023

Work-flow for mould identification by MALDI-TOF MS



Unknown mould

MALDI-TOF MS
processing



H₂O



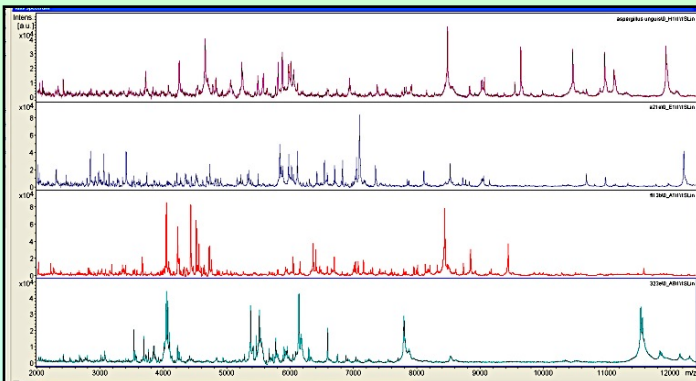
Absolute
ethanol



HCCA matrix



MALDI-TOF spectrum
profile acquisition



Match to fungi database



Log(score) ≥ 2.0?

YES

NO

Species
identification

Molecular
identification

Data entry
in fungi
database



Identification of Molds by Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption Ionization–Time of Flight Mass Spectrometry

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TABLE 1 Studies evaluating the performance of MALDI-TOF MS for species identification of clinically relevant molds^a

MALDI system ^b	Genus or group	Species studied (no. of species)	Acceptance criterion for ID ^c	No. of isolates with ID result/total no. of isolates identifiable in DB ^d	DB used for identification of isolates	Accuracy (%)	Comparator method(s) ^e	Reference
Vitek MS	<i>Aspergillus</i>	<i>A. flavus</i>	≥60%	3/9	Vitek MS IVD	33.0	MB, MO	23
				6/9	SARAMIS	66.0		
		<i>A. nomius</i>	≥60%	0/3	Vitek MS IVD	0.0	MB, MO	
				0/3	SARAMIS	0.0		
		<i>A. tamarii</i>	≥60%	0/2	Vitek MS IVD	0.0	MB, MO	
				0/2	SARAMIS	0.0		
Bruker Daltonics	<i>Aspergillus</i>	<i>Aspergillus</i> spp. (23) ^f	≥2.0	20/21 24/24	Biotyper In-house	95.2 100	MB, MO	24
Bruker Daltonics	<i>Fusarium</i>	<i>Fusarium</i> spp. (19) ^g	≥2.0	222/268	In-house	82.8	MB, MO	25
Bruker Daltonics	<i>Rhizopus</i>	<i>R. arrhizus</i>	NR	25/25	In-house	100	MB	27
		<i>R. microsporus</i>	NR	13/13	In-house	100	MB	
Bruker Daltonics	<i>Talaromyces</i>	<i>T. marneffei</i>	≥2.0	39/39	In-house	100	MB	28
Bruker Daltonics	<i>Talaromyces</i>	<i>T. marneffei</i>	≥2.0	23/28	In-house (NTUH-3370)	82.1	MB, MO	29
	<i>Paecilomyces</i>	<i>Paecilomyces</i> spp. (3)	≥2.0	0/12	Biotyper (general library and Filamentous Fungi Library 1.0)	0.0	MB, MO	
	<i>Fusarium</i>	<i>Fusarium solani</i>	≥2.0	1/6	Biotyper (general library and Filamentous Fungi Library 1.0)	16.6	MB, MO	
	<i>Rhizopus</i>	<i>Rhizopus</i> spp. (3)	≥2.0	0/3	Biotyper (general library and Filamentous Fungi Library 1.0)	0.0	MB, MO	
Bruker Daltonics	<i>Paecilomyces</i>	<i>Paecilomyces</i> spp. (4)	≥2.0, ≥1.8	67/71	Original Biotyper library, supplemented	94.3	MB, MO	30
Vitek MS	Dermatophytes	<i>Trichophyton</i> spp. (7), <i>Arthroderma benhamiae</i> , <i>Microsporum</i> spp. (4), <i>Epidermophyton floccosum</i>	≥60%	125/131	In-house Vitek MS knowledge base	95.4	MB, MO	31
Bruker Daltonics	Dermatophytes	<i>Trichophyton</i> spp. (6), <i>Microsporum</i> spp. (4), <i>Epidermophyton floccosum</i>	>2.0, 1.7–2.0	64/64	In-house	100	MB, MO	32
Bruker Daltonics	Dermatophytes	<i>Trichophyton</i> spp. (7), <i>Microsporum</i> spp. (3), <i>Epidermophyton floccosum</i>	≥2.0	17/126	Original Biotyper library	13.5	MO	33
			<2.0	113/126	Original Biotyper library, supplemented	89.7		

^a Data listed in Table 1 are based on studies published between 1999 and 2016. ^b Abbreviations: MB, Biotyper; MO, Vitek MS; NR, not reported; ID, identification; DB, database; IVD, in-house; SARAMIS, SARAMIS software; Vitek MS, Vitek MS software.

Direct Analysis and Identification of Pathogenic *Lichtheimia* Species by Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption Ionization–Time of Flight Analyzer-Mediated Mass Spectrometry

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University of Leipzig, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Institute of Bacteriology and Mycology, Leipzig, Germany^a; University of Jena, School of Biology and Pharmacy, Institute of Microbiology, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Biology, Jena, Germany^b; Leibniz Institute for Natural Product Research and Infection Biology, Hans-Knöll-Institute, Jena, Germany^c; CBS-KNAW Fungal Biodiversity Centre, Utrecht, The Netherlands^d; Instituto de Salud Carlos III National Centre of Microbiology, Majadahonda (Madrid), Spain^e; and Freie Universität Berlin, Department of Veterinary Pathology, Berlin, Germany^f

- MALDI-TOF MS can be used to clearly discriminate *Lichtheimia* species from other pathogenic species of the Mucorales.
- The reliability and robustness of the MALDI-TOF-based identification are evidenced by the ability to discriminate between clinically relevant (*Lichtheimia corymbifera*, *L. ramosa*, and *L. ornata*) and irrelevant (*L. hyalospora* and *L. sphaerocystis*) species.
- In total, all 34 strains were unequivocally identified by MALDI-TOF MS to the generic level, 32 out of 34 of the *Lichtheimia* isolates were identified accurately with score values of >2 (probable species identification), and 25 of 34 isolates were identified to the species level with score values of >2.3 (highly probable species identification).
- The MALDI-TOF MS-based method reported here was found to be reproducible and accurate, with low consumable costs and minimal preparation time.

Key reasons underlying the demand for noninvasive and reliable fungal diagnostic tools

- Early diagnosis and identification of fungal infection (to improve the survival of affected patients)
- Accurate estimates of fungal disease burden (to sustain long-term surveillance programs for fungal diseases)

The Screening Performance of Serum 1,3-Beta-D-Glucan in Patients with Invasive Fungal Diseases: A Meta-Analysis of Prospective Cohort Studies

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Hou T-Y, Wang S-H, Liang S-X, Jiang W-X, Luo D-D, Huang D-H
Tie-Ying Hou¹, Shou-Hong Wang², Sui-Xin Liang³, Wen-Xin Jiang⁴, Dan-Dong Luo⁵, De-Hong Huang^{6*}

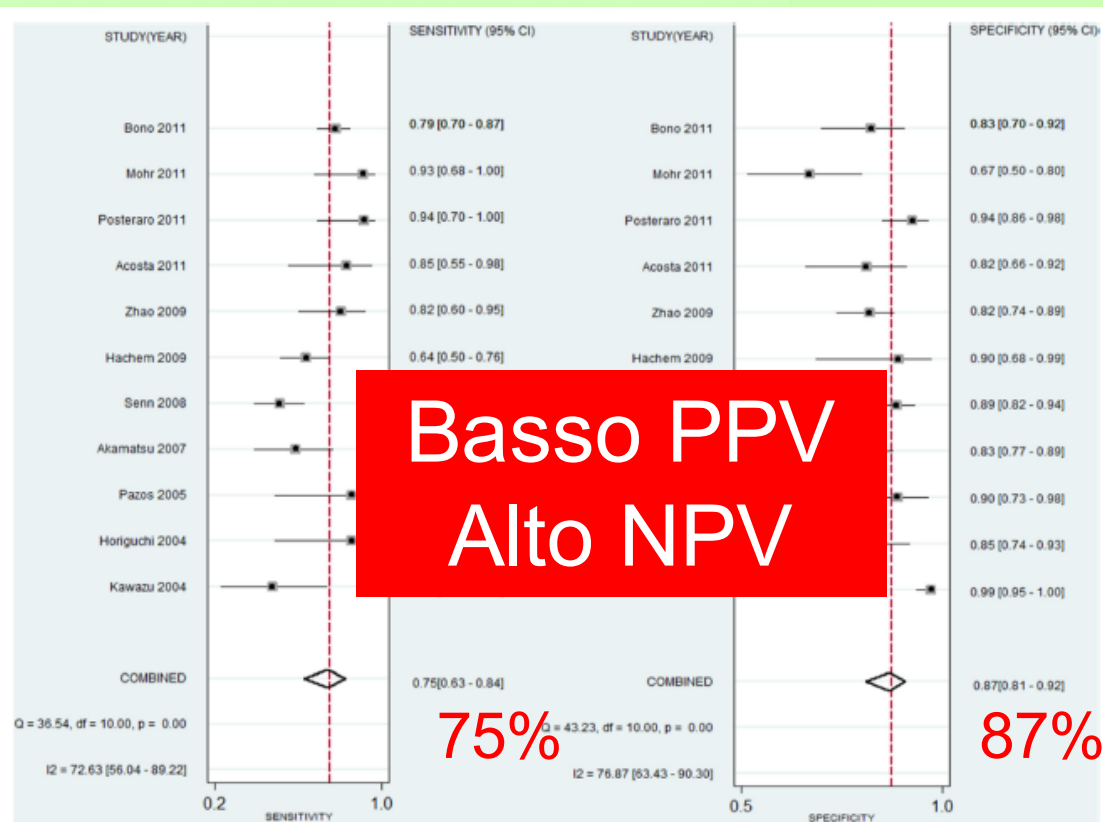
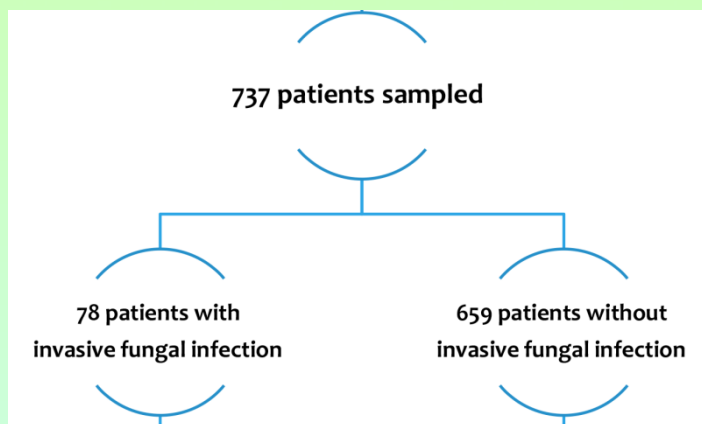


Fig 3. Forest plot of the pooled sensitivity and specificity of the BG assays for the diagnosis of IFDs.

(1, 3)- β -D-glucan assay for diagnosing invasive fungal infections in critically ill patients with hematological malignancies

ELie Azoulay¹, Nicolas Guigue¹, Michael Darmon², Djamel Mokart³, Virginie Lemiale¹, Achille Kouatchet⁴, Julien Mayaux⁵, François Vincent⁶, Martine Nyunga¹, Fabrice Bruneel¹, Antoine Rabbat⁷, Stéphane Bretagne¹, Christine Lebert⁸, Anne-Pascale Meert⁹, Dominique Benoit¹⁰, Frédéric Pene⁷

Meert, Dominique Benoit, Frédéric Pene, Bruneel, Antoine Rabbat, Stéphane Bretagne, Christine Lebert, Anne-Pascale Meert, Dominique Benoit, Frédéric Pene, Bruneel, Antoine Rabbat, Stéphane Bretagne, Christine Lebert, Anne-Pascale Meert, Dominique Benoit, Frédéric Pene



Cut-Off	Sensitivity	Specificity	Youden's index
60 pg/mL	0.82	0.52	0.34
80 pg/mL	0.72	0.65	0.37
100 pg/mL	0.62	0.70	0.32

10% IFI prevalence
PPV 21%
NPV 94%

bacterial infection. In conclusion, in unselected critically ill hematology patients with factors known to affect serum BG, this biomarker showed only moderate diagnostic performance and rarely detected IFI. However, the negative predictive value was high.

RESEARCH

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Early diagnosis of candidemia in intensive care unit patients with sepsis: a prospective comparison of (1→3)-β-D-glucan assay, *Candida* score, and colonization index

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Table 3 Performances of (1→3)-β-D-glucan assay (BG), *Candida* score (CS), and colonization index for detection of invasive candidiasis in 95 patients

	Sensitivity (%) (95% CI)	Specificity (%) (95% CI)	PPV (%) (95% CI)	NPV (%) (95% CI)	PLR (%) (95% CI)	NLR (%) (95% CI)
BG cut-off value, 80 pg/mL	92.9 (66.1 to 99.8)	93.7 (85.8 to 97.9)	72.2 (46.5 to 90.3)	98.7 (92.8 to 99.9)	14.74 (4.65 to 47.52)	0.07 (0.02 to 0.39)
CS ≥3	85.7 (57.2 to 98.2)	88.6 (79.5 to 94.7)	57.1 (34.0 to 78.2)	97.2 (90.3 to 99.7)	7.51 (2.79 to 18.29)	0.16 (0.02 to 0.54)
Colonization index ≥0.5	64.3 (35.1 to 87.2)	69.6 (58.2 to 79.5)	27.3 (13.3 to 45.5)	91.7 (81.6 to 97.2)	2.12 (0.84 to 4.25)	0.51 (0.16 to 1.11)

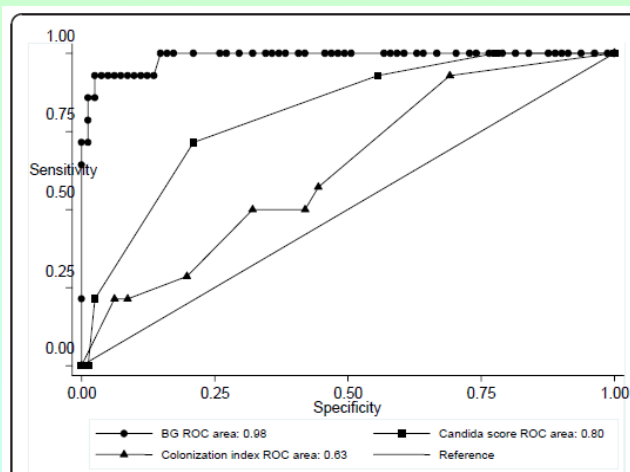


Figure 3 ROC AUC curves of BG, CS, and colonization index for proven IC cases. [The AUC of BG was significantly higher than those of CS ($P < 0.001$) and colonization index ($P < 0.001$), please edit this sentence as a footnote].

16% IFI prevalence
PPV 72,2%
NPV 98,7%

(1,3)- β -D-Glucan-based antifungal treatment in critically ill adults at high risk of candidaemia: an observational studyBrunella Posteraro^{1†}, Mario Tumbarello^{2†}, Gennaro De Pascale³, Elvira Libertò⁴, Maria S. Vallecoccia³, Elena De Carolis⁴, Valentina Di Gravo³, Enrico M. Trecarichi², Maurizio Sanguinetti^{4*} and Massimo Antonelli³¹Institute of Public Health (Section of Hygiene), Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Rome, Italy; ²Institute of Infectious Diseases, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Rome, Italy; ³Department of Intensive Care and Anaesthesiology, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Rome, Italy; ⁴Institute of Microbiology, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Rome, Italy**Objectives:**

- To determine the effects of a strategy that uses (1,3)- β -D-glucan (BDG) results for antifungal treatment of ICU patients at high risk of invasive candidiasis.

Methods:

- Patients were included in the analysis if they exhibited sepsis at the time of BDG testing, and they met *Candida*-score components (i.e., severe sepsis, total parenteral nutrition, surgery, or multifocal *Candida* colonization) to reach a ≥ 3 value.

Results:

- 198 patients were studied
- Of 63 BDG-positive patients, 47 with candidemia and 16 with probable *Candida* infection, all received antifungal therapy
- Of 135 BDG-negative patients, 110 (55.5%) did not receive antifungal therapy, whereas 25 (12.6%) were initially treated. In 14 of these 25 patients antifungals were discontinued as negative BDG results were notified. Candidemia was subsequently diagnosed only in one patient who did not receive prior antifungal therapy
- The median antifungal therapy duration in candidemic patients differed from that in non-candidemic patients (14 days [IQR, 6–18 d] vs 4 days [IQR, 3–7 d]; $p < 0.001$)
- **Thus, unnecessary antifungal therapy was avoided in ~73% of potentially treatable patients and it was shortened in another ~20%**



- The aim of this study was to evaluate the sensitivity and the levels of 1,3-beta-D-glucan (BDG) among patients with candidaemia due to different *Candida* species
- Retrospective study of all (107) patients who had a single-species candidaemia and BDG testing performed within 48 h from the onset of candidaemia during 2009-2015 was performed.
- Factors influencing the sensitivity of BDG (presence of a central venous catheter, antifungal therapy and *Candida* species) were analysed in univariate and multivariate models.
- BDG sensitivity and levels were the highest in *C. albicans* candidaemia and lowest for *C. parapsilosis*
- In multivariate analysis, *Candida* species (*parapsilosis* versus others) was the only factor influencing the sensitivity of BDG (OR 0.3, 95% CI 0.1-0.7, p 0.006).
- The sensitivity of BDG in candidaemia seems highly dependent on the fungal species, with the lowest being for *C. parapsilosis*.

Prospective Evaluation of Serum β -Glucan Testing in Patients With Probable or Proven Fungal Diseases

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Table 1. Demographics, Clinical Characteristics, and Mycological Data of the Patients With Invasive Candidiasis at the Time of Diagnosis

Patient ID	Age	Gender	Category of Patient	Sample Providing Diagnosis	Candida Species/ Diagnostic Element	Location of Candidiasis	Duration of Candidemia (Days)	BG at TOD	
								Time Interval Between Sample Providing Diagnosis and BG Sample (Days)	BG Value (pg/mL)
1	23	M	Hematology	Blood culture	<i>Candida lusitanae</i>	Blood	3	2	267
2	72	M	Hematology	Blood culture	<i>Candida krusei</i>	Blood	1	−1	>523
3	41	F	Hematology	Blood culture	<i>Candida glabrata</i>	Blood	3	3	<80
4	46	M	Hematology	Blood culture	<i>Candida tropicalis</i>	Blood	1	2	>523
5	59	M	Hematology	Blood culture	<i>C. glabrata</i>	Blood	4	3	<80
6	61	M	Hematology	Blood culture	<i>Candida guilliermondii</i>	Blood	5	−1	<80
7	76	M	Hematology	Blood culture	<i>C. glabrata</i>	Blood	2	0	471
8	64	F	Hematology	Blood culture	<i>Candida albicans</i>	Blood	1	0	156
9	62	F	Hematology	Blood culture	<i>C. guilliermondii</i>	Blood	1	−1	<80
10	51	F	Hematology	Blood culture	<i>C. krusei</i>	Blood	6	3	116
11	46	M	Hematology	Blood culture	<i>C. guilliermondii</i>	Blood	2	2	<80
12	68	M	Hematology	Blood culture	<i>Candida norvegensis</i>	Blood	5	−1	<80
13	74	M	Hematology	Blood culture	<i>C. albicans</i>	Blood	4	1	278
14	61	F	Hematology	Blood culture	<i>C. norvegensis</i>	Blood	3	2	<80
15	75	M	Hematology	Blood culture	<i>C. albicans</i>	Blood	1	3	<80
16	77	M	Hematology	Blood culture	<i>C. albicans</i>	Blood	1	2	233
17	30	M	Hematology	Blood culture	<i>C. albicans</i>	Blood	4	1	>523
18	56	M	SOT	Blood culture	<i>Candida parapsilosis</i>	Blood	1	2	131
19	65	M	SOT	Blood culture	<i>C. parapsilosis</i>	Blood	4	3	>523
20	70	F	SOT	Blood culture	<i>C. parapsilosis</i>	Blood	1	5	87
21	44	F	SOT	Blood culture	<i>C. tropicalis</i>	Blood	1	0	260
22	14	F	Pediatric ICU	Blood culture	<i>Kodamaea ohmeri</i>	Blood	3	6	<80
23	0	M	Pediatric ICU	Blood culture	<i>C. albicans</i>	Blood	1	2	372
24	17	F	Pediatric ICU	Blood culture	<i>C. albicans</i>	Blood	1	4	100
25	2	M	Pediatric ICU	Blood culture	<i>C. albicans</i>	Blood	2	5	>523
26	2	M	Pediatric ICU	Blood culture	<i>C. parapsilosis</i>	Blood	1	3	<80
27	6	F	Pediatric ICU	Blood culture	<i>Hyphopichia burtonii</i>	Blood	2	2	<80
28	1	F	Pediatric ICU	Blood culture	<i>C. lusitanae</i>	Blood	2	7	<80
29	1	F	Pediatric ICU	Blood culture	<i>C. tropicalis</i>	Blood	1	3	216
30	2	M	Pediatric ICU	Blood culture	<i>C. guilliermondii</i>	Blood	1	2	<80
31	75	M	Hematology	Blood culture	<i>C. albicans</i>	Blood, Urine	1	2	428
32	12	M	Pediatric ICU	Blood culture	<i>C. lusitanae</i>	Blood, Urine	1	3	<80

Patients with *C. albicans* candidemia were significantly more likely to have a positive BG result at the TOD (15 of 16) than did patients with candidemia due to another *Candida* species (9 of 25; multivariate odds ratio = 25.4; 95% confidence interval, 3.6–560.3; P <.01)

The most difficult *Candida* species to be detected were *C. guilliermondii*, *C. norvegensis* and *C. parapsilosis*

ECIL guidelines for the diagnosis of *Pneumocystis jirovecii* pneumonia in patients with haematological malignancies and stem cell transplant recipients

Alexandre Alario¹, Philippe M. Hauser², Katrien Lagrou³, Willem J. G. Melchers⁴, Jannik Helweg-Larsen⁵, Olga Matos⁶, Simone Cesaro⁷, Georg Maschmeyer⁸, Hermann Einsele⁹, J. Peter Donnelly¹⁰, Catherine Cordonnier^{11*}, Johan Maertens¹² and Stéphane Bretagne¹ on behalf of the 5th European Conference on Infections in Leukemia (ECIL-5†), a joint venture of The European Group for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT), The European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC), the Immunocompromised Host Society (ICHS) and The European LeukemiaNet (ELN)

Table 1. Recommended diagnosis of PCP in adult patients with haematological malignancies and stem cell transplant recipients (it is not recommended that PCP diagnosis should rely only on clinical criteria or imaging)

Specimen/technique	Recommended usage	Strength of recommendation	Quality of evidence
Diagnostic specimen			
BAL fluid	allows detection of multiple aetiologies	A	II
other (non-invasive specimens ^a)	alternative specimen to BAL	B	II
Diagnostic technique			
Respiratory samples			
immunofluorescence assays	most sensitive microscopic diagnostic method	A	II
real-time quantitative PCR	routine diagnosis allowing quantification	A	III
	exclusion of PCP by negative result in BAL only	A	II
Serum			
β-D-glucan	detection in serum as a contributive diagnostic tool	A	II
	exclusion of PCP by negative result	A	II
genotyping using multilocus sequence markers	investigation of suspected outbreaks	A	II
detection of dihydropteroate synthase mutations	not recommended in case of treatment failure	B	II

^aIncludes induced sputa, sputa and upper respiratory samples (nasopharyngeal aspirates, nasal or oral washes).

ECIL guidelines for the diagnosis of *Pneumocystis jirovecii* pneumonia in patients with haematological malignancies and stem cell transplant recipients

Alexandre Alario¹, Philippe M. Hauser², Katrien Lagrou³, Willem J. G. Melchers⁴, Jannik Helweg-Larsen⁵, Olga Matos⁶, Simone Cesaro⁷, Georg Maschmeyer⁸, Hermann Einsele⁹, J. Peter Donnelly¹⁰, Catherine Cordonnier^{11*}, Johan Maertens¹² and Stéphane Bretagne¹ on behalf of the 5th European Conference on Infections in Leukemia (ECIL-5†), a joint venture of The European Group for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT), The European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer (EORTC), the Immunocompromised Host Society (ICHS) and The European LeukemiaNet (ELN)

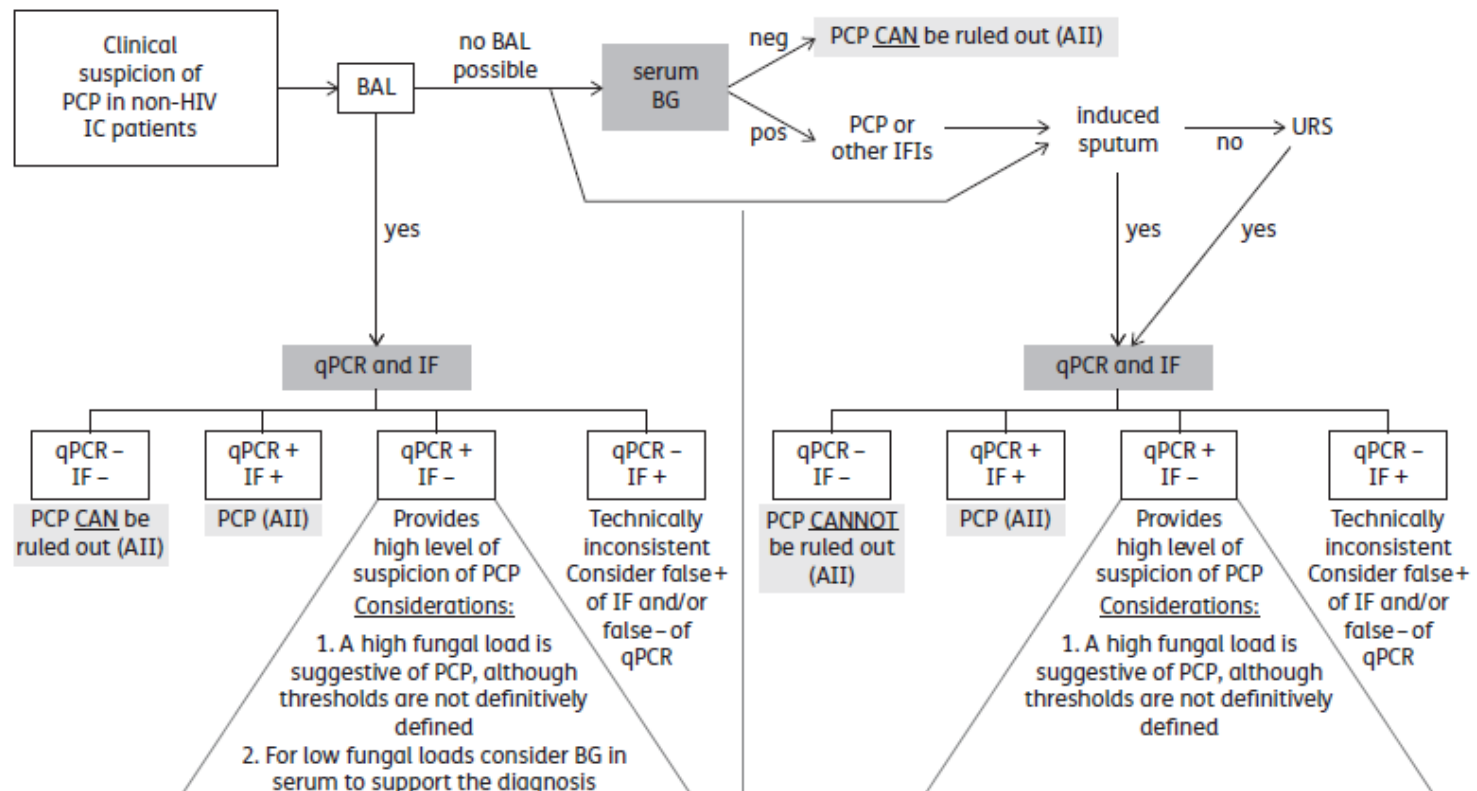


Figure 1. Flow chart for the diagnosis of *Pneumocystis* pneumonia in non-HIV immunocompromised (IC) patients. Biological tests are highlighted in dark grey and recommendations in light grey. BG, β -D-glucan; A-II, level of recommendation; IFI, invasive fungal infection.

β-D-glucan assay in diagnosing invasive aspergillosis

(ESCMID & ECMM joint recommendations for the laboratory diagnosis of invasive aspergillosis)

Population	Intention	Intervention	SoR	QoE	Comment
Mixed population: adult ICU, haematological disorders, SOT	To diagnose IFD	Diagnostic assay	C	II	5 different assays. Fungitell FDA approved and available in US and Europe, others only available in Japan Overall sensitivity of 77% and specificity of 85% Specificity limits its value in this setting
		Screening assays	C	II	Two or more consecutive samples: sensitivity: 65% Specificity: 93% Studies included once to twice weekly
Adult haematological malignancy and HSCT	To diagnose IFD	Diagnostic assay	C	II	Overall sensitivity: 50-70%, specificity : 91-99%
ICU – mixed adult immunocompromised patients (haematology, SOT, cancer, immunosuppressive therapy, HIV)	To diagnose IA	Diagnostic assay	C	II	Overall sensitivity: 78 -85%, specificity: 36-75%, NPV: 85-92% Specificity increased at higher cut-off values
ICU – mixed adult population: SOT, liver failure, immunosuppressed		Screening assays	C	III	Sensitivity: 91%, specificity: 58%, PPV: 25%, NPV: 98%. Positive mean of 5.6 days before positive mould culture High false positive rate in early ICU admission
Adult haematological malignancy and HSCT	To diagnose IA	Diagnostic assay	C	II	Overall sensitivity: 57-76%, specificity: 95-97%
		Screening assays	C	II	Overall sensitivity: 46%, specificity: 97% Confirmation with GM increases specificity

ICU, intensive care unit; SOT solid organ transplantation; IFD, invasive fungal disease; IA, invasive aspergillosis; PPV, positive predictive value; NPV, negative predictive value; GM, galactomannan; BDG, beta-D-glucan test.

From: Lagrou *et al*, in preparation

Blood GM testing in diagnosing invasive aspergillosis

(ESCMID & ECMM joint recommendations for the laboratory diagnosis of invasive aspergillosis)

Population	Intention	Intervention	SoR	QoE	Comment
Prolonged neutropenic patients and allogeneic stem cell transplantation recipients not on mold-active prophylaxis	Prospective screening for IA	GM in blood	A	I	Highest test accuracy requiring 2 consecutive samples with an OD index ≥ 0.5 or retesting the same sample Prospective monitoring should be combined with HRCT and clinical evaluation
		Draw samples every 3-4 days	C	III	
Prolonged neutropenic patients and allogeneic stem cell transplantation recipients on posaconazole prophylaxis	Prospective screening for iIA	GM in blood	D	II	Low prevalence of invasive aspergillosis in this setting with consequently low PPV of blood GM test Prophylaxis may have a negative impact on sensitivity of the test
Patients with a haematological malignancy •Neutropenic patients •Non-neutropenic patients	To diagnose IA	GM in blood	A B	II II	Significant lower sensitivity in non-neutropenic patients
ICU patients	To diagnose IA	GM in blood	C	II	Better performance in neutropenic than in non-neutropenic patients
Solid organ recipients	To diagnose IA	GM in blood	C	II	Low sensitivity, good specificity. Most data for lung TX (few other SOT patients with IA included)
Cancer patients	To monitor treatment	GM in blood	A	II	

Serum Galactomannan–Based Early Detection of Invasive Aspergillosis in Hematology Patients Receiving Effective Antimold Prophylaxis

Rafael F. Duarte,¹ Isabel Sánchez-Ortega,¹ Isabel Cuesta,² Montserrat Arnan,¹ Beatriz Patiño,¹ Alberto Fernández de Sevilla,¹ Carlota Gudiol,¹ Josefina Ayats,³ and Manuel Cuenca-Estrella²

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Table 5. Performance of the Serum Galactomannan Assay in High-Risk Patients Receiving Effective Antimold Prophylaxis

Evaluable episodes ^a , No.	217	
GM test results ^b		
True positive, No. (%)	5 (2.3)	
True negative, No. (%)	182 (83.9)	
False positive, No. (%)	30 (13.8)	
False negative	. . .	
Sensitivity, %	100 ^c	70 ^d
Specificity, %	85.5 ^c	90 ^d
Scenario 1: GM screening of all cases ^e		
Negative predictive value, %	100 ^c	99.4 ^d
Positive predictive value, %	11.8 ^c	11.9 ^d
Scenario 2: Diagnosis of IFD suspicion only ^f		
Negative predictive value, %	100 ^c	70.6 ^d
Positive predictive value, %	89.6 ^c	89.7 ^d

Histoplasmosis-Associated Cross-Reactivity in the BioRad Platelia *Aspergillus* Enzyme Immunoassay[▽]

L. Joseph Wheat,^{1*} Emily Hackett,¹ Michelle Durkin,¹ Patricia Connolly,¹ Ruta Petraitiene,^{2,3}
 Thomas J. Walsh,² Kenneth Knox,⁴ and Chadi Hage⁴

MiraVista Diagnostics, Indianapolis, Indiana¹; National Cancer Institute, Pediatric Oncology Branch, Immunocompromised Host Section, CRC, Rm. 1W-5750, 10 Center Drive, Bethesda, Maryland 20892-1100²; Laboratory Animal Sciences Program, SAIC-Frederick, Inc., Frederick, Maryland 21702³; and Indiana University School of Medicine, Department of Pulmonary Medicine, Roudebush Veterans' Administration Hospital, 1481 West Tenth Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46202⁴

Received 19 December 2006/Returned for modification 24 January 2007/Accepted 8 February 2007

We observed false-positive results in the Platelia *Aspergillus* enzyme-linked immunoassay (EIA) for specimens from patients with histoplasmosis and mice with experimental infection. Platelia *Aspergillus* EIA-positive specimens were negative in the second-generation *Histoplasma* antigen EIA. Care must be taken to exclude histoplasmosis for patients with positive Platelia *Aspergillus* EIA results.

TABLE 1. Clinical specimens identified to have positive results in second-generation *Histoplasma* EIA and Platelia *Aspergillus* EIA

Case no.	Second-generation <i>Histoplasma</i> EIA result (U) ^a		Platelia <i>Aspergillus</i> EIA result for serum (GMI)	Type of histoplasmosis ^b
	Serum	Urine		
1	42.6	31.4	6.2	Pulmonary
2	QNS	20.4	5.5	Disseminated
3	4.2	12.5	5.5	Cavitary
4	33.9	32.0	1.5	Disseminated
5	24.2	ND	4.7	Disseminated
6	98.7	66.8	7.8	Disseminated

^a QNS, quantity not sufficient to test; ND, not done.

^b None of these patients showed evidence of aspergillosis.

Notes

Galactomannan testing might be useful for early diagnosis of fusariosis[☆]

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Received 13 November 2011; accepted 13 December 2011

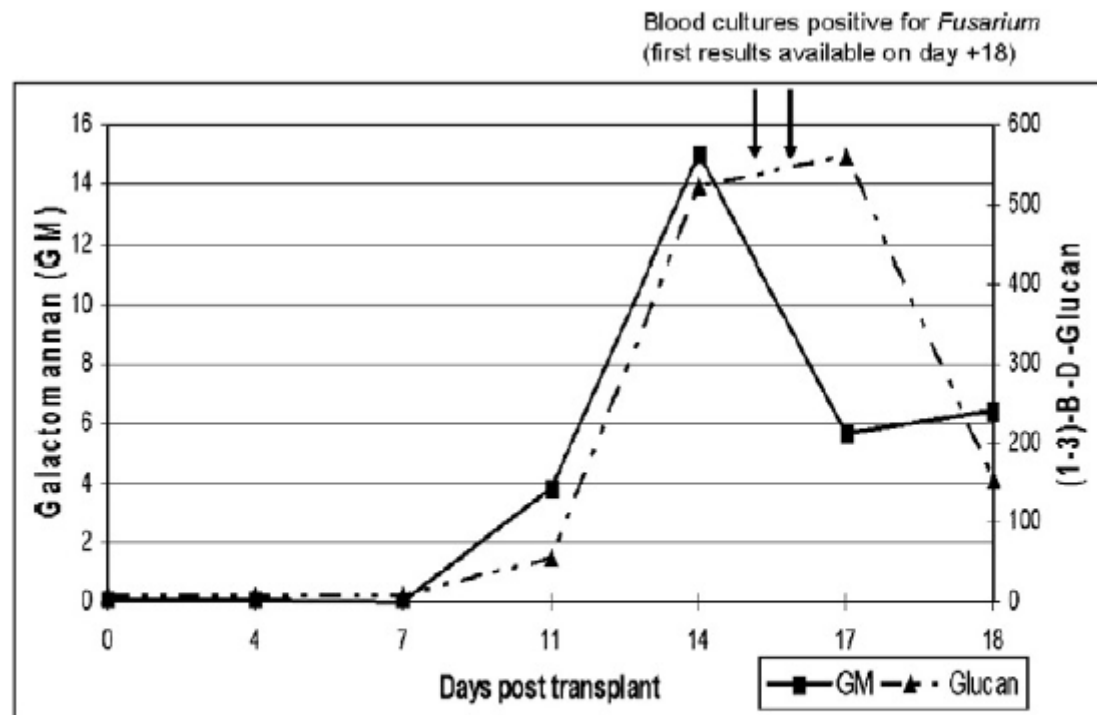


Fig. 1. Galactomannan (GM) and (1,3)-beta-glucan serum levels in a patient with fusariosis.

Cross-Reactivity of *Fusarium* spp. in the *Aspergillus* Galactomannan Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay

Anna Maria Tortorano,^a Maria Carmela Esposto,^a Anna Prigitano,^a Anna Grancini,^b Cristina Ossi,^c Caterina Cavanna,^d and Giuliana Lo Cascio^e

TABLE 1 Serum GM index results for patients with disseminated/deep-seated *Fusarium* infection^a

Patient	Sex	Age (yr)	Predisposing factor(s)	<i>Fusarium</i> infecting isolate	Positive biological sample(s)	Serum GM index range
1	M	29	Allo-HSCT	<i>F. oxysporum</i>	Pleural fluid	0.69–0.90
2	M	63	Leukemia	<i>F. oxysporum</i>	Bronchial secretions	1.40–2.30
3	M	55	AML	<i>F. proliferatum</i>	Blood	0.89–0.86
4	F	61	Allo-HSCT	<i>F. proliferatum</i>	Blood	1.37–2.33
5	F	56	AML, allo-HSCT	<i>F. proliferatum</i>	Blood	0.7–2.15
6	M	8	Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma	<i>F. proliferatum</i>	Blood	0.53–7.7
7	M	19	ALL, auto-HSCT	<i>F. proliferatum</i>	Blood	0.54–1.45
8	F	57	Postchemotherapy aplasia, RAEB	FSSC	Purulent nasal discharge	0.50–0.60
9	M	41	Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, allo-HSCT	<i>F. verticillioides</i>	Skin biopsy	Negative
10	M	5	ALL	<i>F. verticillioides</i>	Blood	Negative
11	F	9	ALL, auto-HSCT	<i>F. verticillioides</i>	Blood	0.70–4.16

^a M, male; F, female; allo-HSCT, allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation; AML, acute myeloid leukemia; ALL, acute lymphoblastic leukemia; RAEB, refractory anemia with excess blasts; auto-HSCT, autologous hematopoietic stem cell transplantation; FSSC, *Fusarium solani* species complex.

GM testing in diagnosing invasive aspergillosis in other clinical samples

(ESCMID & ECMM joint recommendations for the laboratory diagnosis of invasive aspergillosis)

Population	Intention	Intervention	SoR	QoE	Comment
Any	To diagnose pulmonary aspergillosis	Galactomannan in BAL in haematological patients	A	II	Galactomannan in BAL is a good tool to diagnose Optimal cut-off-ranging from 0.5 to 1.0
Any	To diagnose cerebral aspergillosis	Galactomannan in CSF	B	II	No validated cut-off
Any	To detect galactomannan in tissue	To apply galactomannan test on lung biopsies	B	II	Cut-off 0.5; High sensitivity (90 %) and specificity (95%); Specimens need to be sliced, precondition for doing so is that sufficient material is available Dilution in isotonic saline

From: Lagrou *et al*, in preparation

Galactomannan and Polymerase Chain Reaction–Based Screening for Invasive Aspergillosis Among High-Risk Hematology Patients: A Diagnostic Meta-analysis

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¹Infectious Diseases Division, Rhode Island Hospital, and ²Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island; and ³Internal Medicine Department, Boston Medical Center, Massachusetts

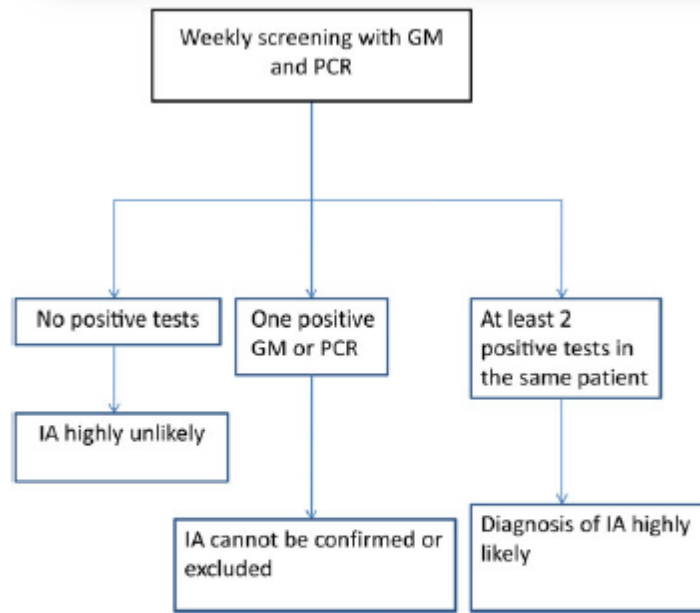


Figure 3. Algorithm for invasive aspergillosis (IA) screening for high-risk populations. When all test results are consistently negative, the negative predictive value for IA is 100%. When 2 tests are positive, the posttest probability is close to 88% and IA is highly likely. Abbreviations: GM, galactomannan; PCR, polymerase chain reaction.

The absence of any positive test can obviate the need for antifungal agents with a NPV of 100%, whereas the presence of at least 2 positive results is highly suggestive of an active infection with a PPV of 88%.

- **If PCR assays are used, results should be considered with other diagnostic tests and the clinical context (strong recomm; moderate-quality evid.)**
- **Serum and BAL galattomannan (GM) is recommended as an accurate marker for the diagnosis of IA in adult and pediatric patients when used in certain patient subpopulations (hematologic malignancy, HSCT) (strong recomm; high-quality evid.)**
- **GM is not recommended for routine blood screening in patients receiving mold-active antifungal therapy or prophylaxis, but can be applied to bronchoscopy specimens from those patients (strong recomm; high-quality evid.)**
- **Serum assays for (1→3)-β-D-glucan are recommended for diagnosing IA in high-risk patients (hematologic malignancy, allogeneic HSCT), but are not specific for Aspergillus (strong recomm; moderate-quality evid.)**
- **We recommend performing BAL in patients with a suspicion of IPA (strong recomm; moderate-quality evid.)**

REVIEW

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Future
MICROBIOLOGY

Laboratory diagnosis of mucormycosis: current status and future perspectives

Michaela Lackner¹, Rita Caramalho¹ & Cornelia Lass-Flörl^{1*}

Table 1. Immunological diagnostic tests for mucormycosis.

Method	Target structure	Clinical specimens	Clinical studies	Sensitivity/specificity	Cross-reactivity	Comments	Ref.
ELISA	<i>Rhizopus arrhizus</i> and <i>Rhizopus pusillus</i> antibody	Sera from patients infected with <i>Mucorales</i> spp. (n = 43)	None	81%/94%	<i>Candida</i> spp., <i>Aspergillus</i> spp.	Minimal positivity titer dilution of 1:400	[53]
Western immunoblotting	<i>R. arrhizus</i> antigen homogenates	Sera from patients infected with <i>R. arrhizus</i> (n = 5)	None	NA/NA	NA	NA	[50]
ELISA, Western blot, immunohistochemistry with anti- <i>R. arrhizus</i> monoclonal mouse antibody	Cytoplasm, hyphae, walls and septae, of <i>R. arrhizus</i> WSSAs	Tissue samples from patients with systemic mycoses (n = 40)	Limited data available	NA/NA	NA	14–110 kDa <i>R. arrhizus</i> 1–14 to 52 kDa <i>Lichtheimia corymbifera</i> 20–28 kDa <i>R. pusillus</i>	[54,55]
ELISA (ELISpot) or immunocytofluorimetric assays	<i>Mucorales</i> specific IFN- γ -producing T cells	Peripheral blood samples from patients with proven IM (n = 80)	None	<i>R. pusillus</i> (6/4) <i>R. arrhizus</i> (5/5) <i>L. corymbifera</i> (5/4)/NA	None	Positivity for 2–10 SFCs	[56]

Sensitivity/specificity: number of samples analyzed (in bold)/samples positive (not bold).

IM: Invasive mucormycosis; NA: Not available; SFC: Spot-forming cell; WSSA: Water-soluble somatic antigen.

T2Candida Panel powered by T2 Magnetic Resonance (T2MR)



Figure 1. T2Dx Instrument

- T2MR combines proven magnetic resonance with innovative nanotechnology to accurately identify *Candida* pathogens in whole blood faster and easier than blood culture-based diagnostics

T2 Magnetic Resonance Assay for the Rapid Diagnosis of Candidemia in Whole Blood: A Clinical Trial

Eleftherios Mylonakis,¹ Cornelius J. Clancy,² Luis Ostrosky-Zeichner,³ Kevin W. Garey,⁴ George J. Alangaden,⁵ Jose A. Vazquez,⁶ Jeffrey S. Groeger,⁷ Marc A. Judson,⁸ Yuka-Marie Vinagre,⁹ Stephen O. Heard,¹⁰ Fainareti N. Zervou,¹ Ioannis M. Zacharioudakis,¹ Dimitrios P. Kontoyiannis,¹¹ and Peter G. Pappas¹²

- T2MR demonstrated an overall specificity per assay of 99.4% with a mean time to negative result of 4.2 ± 0.9 hours. The overall sensitivity was found to be 91.1% (96.6% considering also other studies) with a mean time of 4.4 ± 1.0 hours for detection and species identification

T2 Magnetic Resonance Improves the Timely Management of Candidemia

Nicole M Wilson¹, Rachel M. Kenney¹, Robert J. Tibbetts, George Alangaden¹, Susan L. Davis^{1,2}, Linoj P. Samuel¹

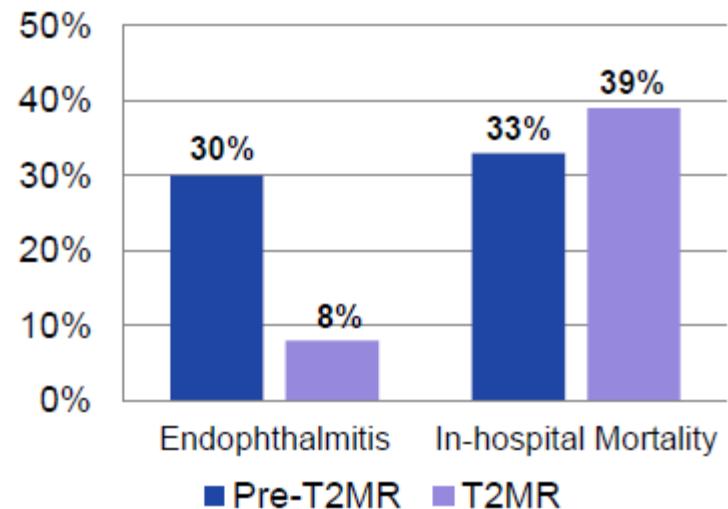
¹Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, MI; ²Wayne State University, Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences

Time Endpoints and Patient Outcomes

Time Endpoints	Pre-T2MR	Post-T2MR	P value
Time to appropriate therapy, hrs	39.6 (12.9, 54.75)	26.6 (2.5, 47.1)	0.01
Time to detection of Candida species, hrs	41.75 (30.1, 65.9)	25.25 (6.3, 43)	0.01
Length of stay, days	13 (7-23)	9 (6-21)	0.164
ICU length of stay, days	13 (6-21)	6 (4-13)	0.009

Data presented as median (IQR)

Clinical outcomes



Azole Resistance in *Aspergillus fumigatus*: Can We Retain the Clinical Use of Mold-Active Antifungal Azoles?

Paul E. Verweij,¹ Anuradha Chowdhary,² Willem J. G. Melchers,¹ and Jacques F. Meis^{1,3}

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Clinical Infectious Diseases® 2016;62(3):362–8

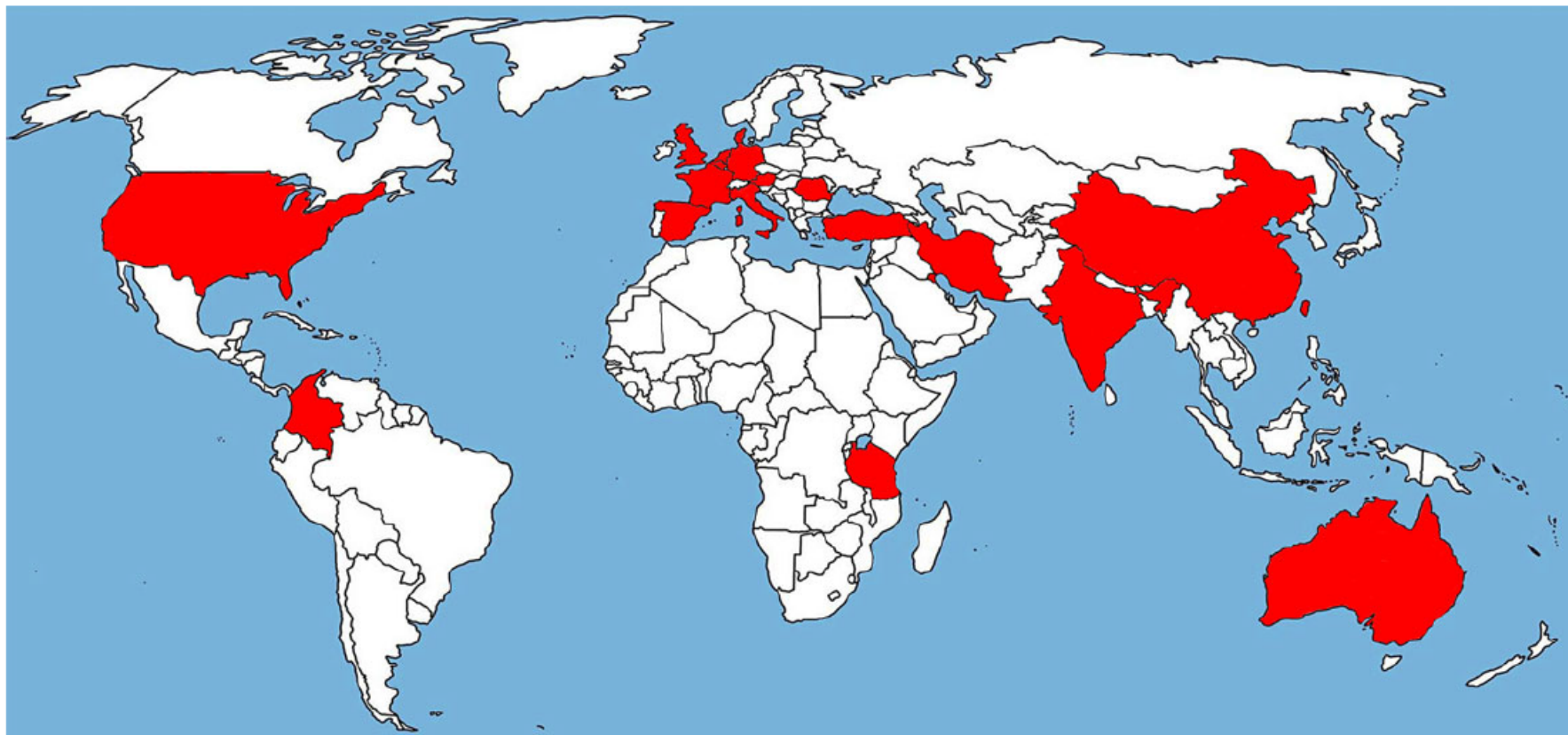


Figure 1. Shaded areas show countries that have reported the TR₃₄/L98H and TR₄₆/Y121F/T289A resistance mechanism in clinical or environmental *Aspergillus fumigatus* isolates.

Azole Resistance in *Aspergillus fumigatus*: Can We Retain the Clinical Use of Mold-Active Antifungal Azoles?

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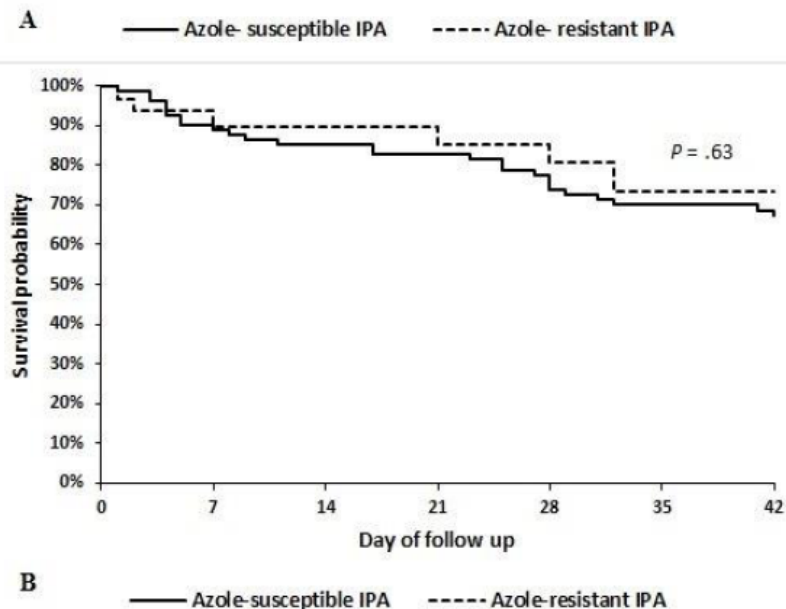
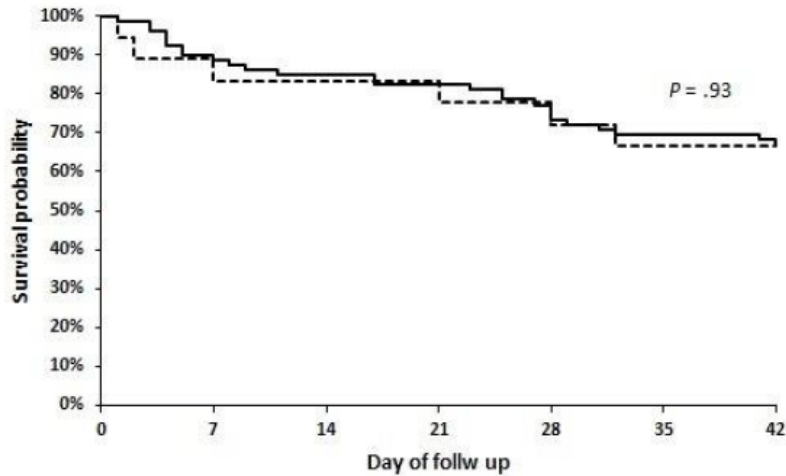
Clinical Infectious Diseases® 2016;62(3):362–8

Table 3. Reported Mortality Rates in Patients With Invasive Aspergillosis in Different Time Periods

<i>Aspergillus</i> Disease				
Era	IA	Comment	CNS IA	Comment
c-AmB era	65% [2]	122 of 187 patients receiving c-AmB died.	95%–100% [3]	Literature review
	71.6% [55]	187 of 261 patients with IA died.	99% [56]	Review of 141 cases of CNS IA in immunocompromised patients, of whom 140 died.
Azole era	27.5% [57]	9-wk mortality: 39 of 142 patients receiving voriconazole monotherapy.	45.6% [7]	Retrospective analysis of 81 patients with CNS IA treated with voriconazole
	28.5% [58]	Population-based study analyzing 8563 aspergillosis cases in France.	35.4% [59]	Literature review: 4 of 11 patients with CNS IA who received voriconazole monotherapy.
Azole resistant	100% [44]	Culture-positive patients with proven and probable IPA treated with voriconazole (5/5)	86% [24, 44, 60]	7 cases of azole-resistant CNS IA have been reported, of which 6 were fatal.
	88% [45]	8 HSCT patients with culture-positive, azole-resistant IA, of whom 7 died.		
	100% [54]	ICU patients with culture-positive azole-resistant IA died (10/10), compared with 21 of 28 (75%) with azole-susceptible IA.		

Abbreviations: c-AmB, conventional amphotericin B; CNS, central nervous system; HSCT, hematopoietic stem cell transplant; IA, invasive aspergillosis; ICU, intensive care unit; IPA, invasive pulmonary aspergillosis.

Sang Taek Heo, Alexander M. Tataru, Cristina Jiménez-Ortigosa, Ying Jiang, Russell E Lewis, Jeffrey Tarrand, Frank Tverdek, Nathaniel D. Albert, Paul E. Verweij, Jacques F Meis, Antonios G. Mikos, David S. Perlin, Dimitrios P. Kontoyiannis; Changes in in vitro susceptibility patterns of *Aspergillus* to triazoles and correlation with aspergillosis outcome in a tertiary care cancer center (1999-2015). *Clin Infect Dis* 2017 cix297. doi: 10.1093/cid/cix297



time in triazole MICs of 290 sequential
 and from respiratory sources from 1999-2002
Aspergillus-potent triazoles voriconazole and
 15 Survival curves for patients who had either
 azole-wild type or azole-nonwild type
 nathologic cancer and/or HSCT with invasive
 correlated in vitro susceptibility with 42 day
 Kaplan-Meier survival curves. B, Adjusted
 (13%) isolates and was only low level
 survival curves (adjusted for history of
 neutropenia, lymphopenia, intensive care
 ween *in vitro* MIC with 42 day mortality in
 unit admission, and time period of IPA
 e of antifungal treatment.
 diagnosis).
 CI = 2.5-173.5; $P = .005$) and azole
 as (OR = 9.6; 95% CI = 1.9-48.5; $P = .006$)
 resistance.

AsperGenius

- AsperGenius® is a multiplex real-time PCR assay developed by PathoNostics. It rapidly diagnoses *Aspergillus* infections and simultaneously identifies azole resistance.
- Species multiplex
 - *Aspergillus fumigatus*
 - *Aspergillus terreus*
 - *Aspergillus species*
- Resistance multiplex
 - L98H
 - Tandem repeat 34
 - T289A
 - Y121F

PCR-based detection of *Aspergillus fumigatus* Cyp51A mutations on bronchoalveolar lavage: a multicentre validation of the AsperGenius[®] assay[®] in 201 patients with haematological disease suspected for invasive aspergillosisG. M. Chong^{1*}, M. T. van der Beek², P. A. von dem Borne³, J. Boelens⁴, E. Steel⁵, G. A. Kampinga⁶, L. F. R. Span⁷, K. Lagrou⁸, J. A. Maertens⁹, G. J. H. Dingemans¹⁰, G. R. Gaajetaan¹⁰, D. W. E. van Tegelen¹⁰, J. J. Cornelissen¹¹, A. G. Vonk¹² and B. J. A. Rijnders¹**Table 2.** Diagnostic performance of the species probe of the AsperGenius[®] PCR according to different Ct cut-offs and positive/negative controls

Ct value cut-off of the AsperGenius [®] species PCR	Diagnostic performance	Positive control versus negative control		
		BAL samples as defined in this study, ^a n=201	Proven, probable or non-classifiable IA versus no IA, ^b n=169	Proven or probable IA versus no IA, n=126
<36	sensitivity (%)	70.45	68.42	76.92
	specificity (%)	95.58	98.65	98.65
	PPV (%)	92.54	98.48	97.56
	NPV (%)	80.60	70.87	85.88
<37	sensitivity (%)	73.86	71.58	78.85
	specificity (%)	90.27	94.59	94.59
	PPV (%)	85.53	94.44	91.11
	NPV (%)	81.60	72.16	86.42
<38	sensitivity (%)	84.09	83.16	88.46
	specificity (%)	79.65	85.14	85.14
	PPV (%)	76.29	87.78	80.70
	NPV (%)	86.54	79.75	91.30
<39	sensitivity (%)	88.64	87.37	90.38
	specificity (%)	62.83	72.97	72.97
	PPV (%)	65.00	80.58	70.15
	NPV (%)	87.65	81.82	91.53

^aBAL samples with a positive GM (≥ 1.0) and/or positive culture for *Aspergillus* of BAL, sputum or lung biopsy at most 5 days from date of the BAL were considered positive controls. BAL samples with a negative BAL GM in combination with a negative culture from BAL, sputum or lung biopsy were considered negative controls.

^bProven IA and probable IA were defined according to the revised EORTC/MSG consensus criteria. Non-classifiable was defined as a patient with EORTC/MSG host and microbiological criteria fulfilled and a pulmonary infiltrate without a halo or air-crescent or well-defined nodule. No IA was defined as no proven IA, no probable IA, no non-classifiable IA or no possible invasive fungal disease.

A Breath Fungal Secondary Metabolite Signature to Diagnose Invasive Aspergillosis

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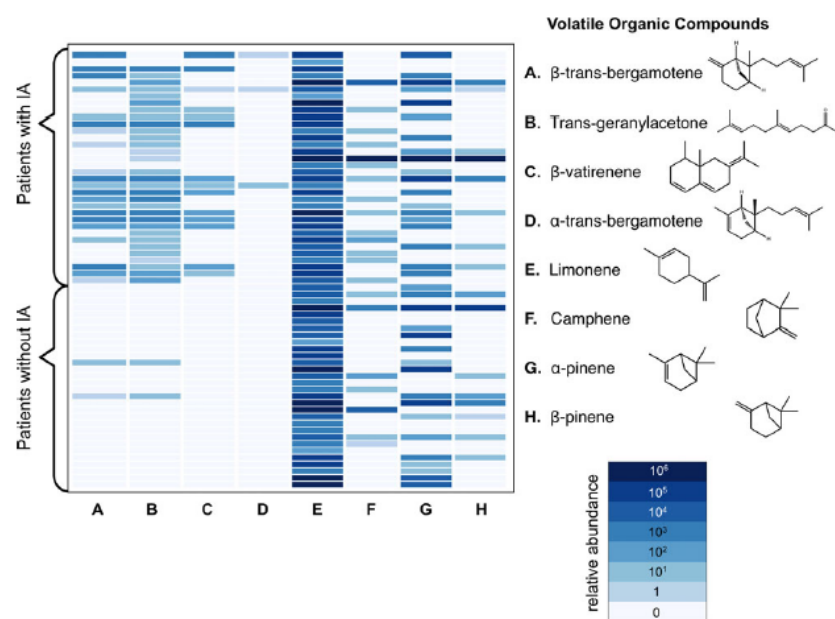


Figure 2. Relative abundance of *Aspergillus* terpene metabolites in breath samples. This heatmap shows the average integrated area of terpene metabolites (columns A–H) in the breath of 64 patients with and without invasive aspergillosis (IA).

Table 3. Breath *Aspergillus* Metabolite Signature by the Reference Standard and Test Parameters

Parameter	Invasive Aspergillosis ^a	Other Pneumonia	Total Patients
<i>Aspergillus</i> metabolite signature ^b +	32	2	34
<i>Aspergillus</i> metabolite signature –	2 ^c	28	30
Total patients	34	30	64
Test parameters			
Sensitivity (95% CI)	0.94 (.81–.98)		
Specificity (95% CI)	0.93 (.79–.98)		
Positive likelihood ratio (95% CI)	14.1 (3.69–54.0)		
Negative likelihood ratio (95% CI)	0.063 (.02–.24)		

Abbreviation: CI, confidence interval.

^a Proven or probable invasive aspergillosis, according to the revised European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer/Mycoses Study Group consensus criteria [28].

^b Defined as the presence of any of the 4 elements of a metabolite volatile signature, comprised of β -trans-bergamotene, α -trans-bergamotene, trans-geranylacetone, and a β -vatiene-like sesquiterpene, in the patient's breath.

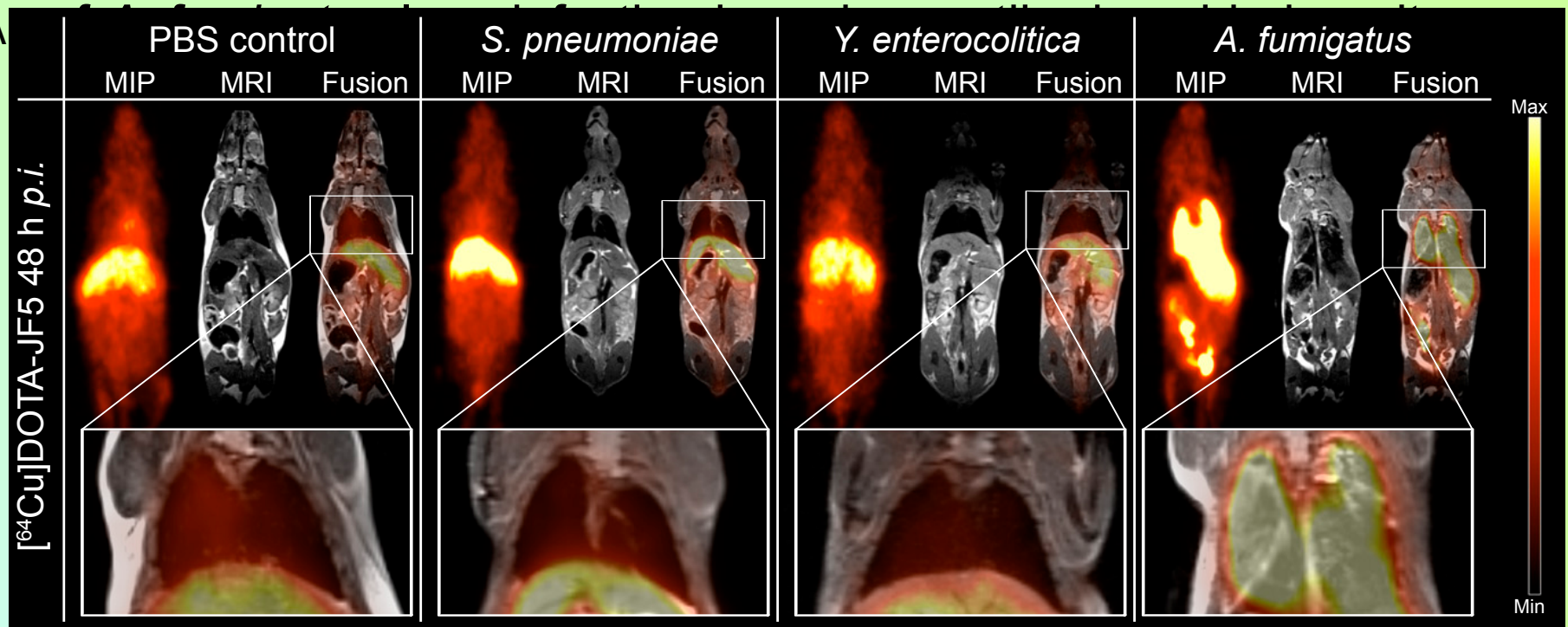
^c *Aspergillus niger* was identified as the etiology of invasive aspergillosis in 1 of these 2 patients.

ImmunoPET/MR imaging allows specific detection of *Aspergillus fumigatus* lung infection in vivo

Anna-Maria Rolle^{a,1}, Mike Hasenberg^{b,1}, Christopher R. Thornton^c, Djamschid Solouk-Saran^b, Linda Männ^b, Juliane Weski^b, Andreas Maurer^a, Eliane Fischer^d, Philipp R. Spycher^d, Roger Schibli^d, Frederic Boschetti^e, Sabine Stegemann-Koniszewski^{f,g}, Dunja Bruder^{f,g}, Gregory W. Severin^{h,i}, Stella E. Autenrieth^j, Sven Krappmann^k, Genna Davies^c, Bernd J. Pichler^a, Matthias Gunzer^{b,2}, and Stefan Wiehr^{a,2}

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- In this paper was evaluated a novel probe for noninvasive detection

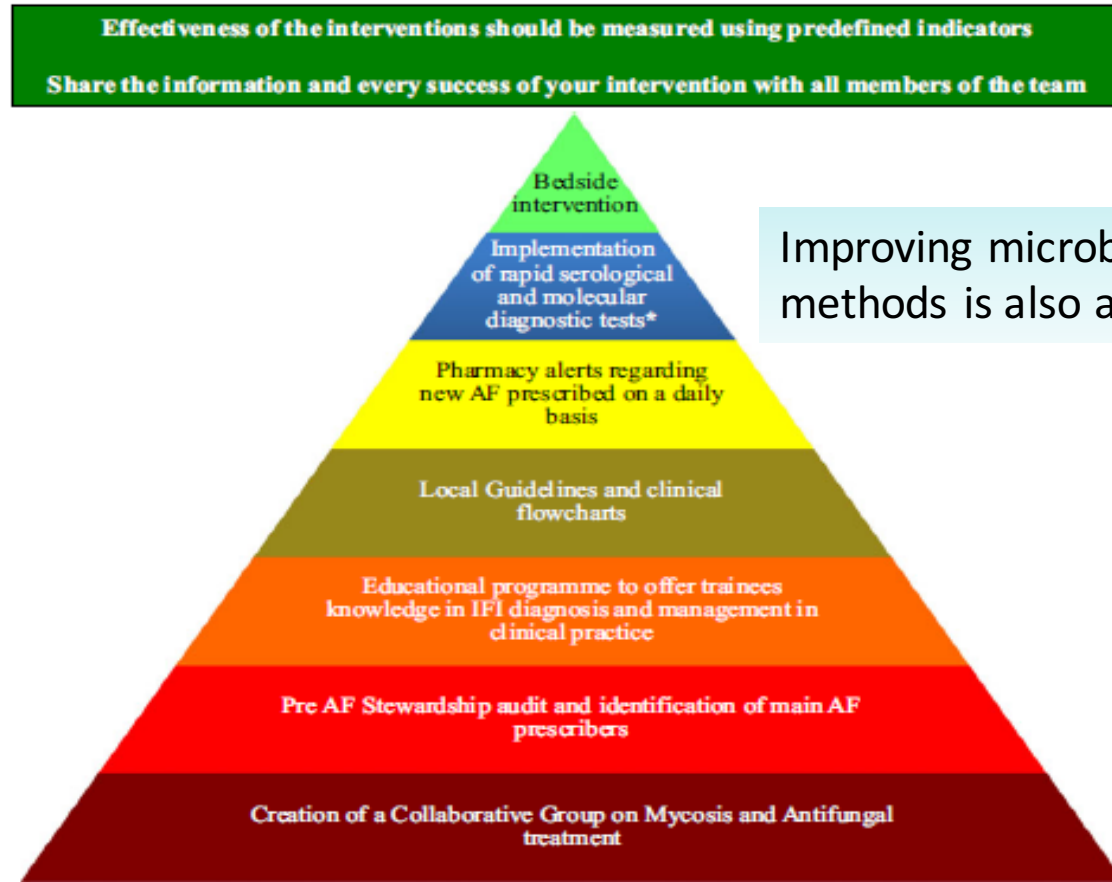


distinguished IPA from bacterial lung infections and, in contrast to [18F]FDG-PET, discriminated IPA from a general increase in metabolic activity associated with lung inflammation.

Antifungal stewardship in daily practice and health economic implications

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Improving microbiology diagnostic methods is also a means of AFS!!

Figure 1 AF stewardship step-by-step. *Use of molecular diagnostics and/or serological biomarkers like galactomannan and beta-D-glucan for early diagnosis. Implementation of TDM for AF plasma levels and susceptibility testing. IFI, invasive fungal infection; AF, antifungal.