# Mycology across medical fields: syllabus

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#### **Syllabus**

## Mycology basics:

- Nomenclature and taxonomy of human pathogenic fungi
- Fungal cell structure, organization and physiology
- Must-know laboratory procedures: microscopy, staining, culture, histopathology
- Principles of fungal genetics

#### Antifungal agents and susceptibility testing:

- Classes of antifungals: Polyenes, triazoles, echinocandins, allylamines
- Novel antifungals: olorofim, fosmanogepix, ibrexafungerp
- Mechanisms of action
- Pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics
- Mechanisms of resistance
- Antifungal susceptibility testing
- Therapeutic drug monitoring

## Antifungal immunology and immune deficiency:

- Antifungal immunity
- Work-up for immune deficiency in a patient with invasive fungal disease
- Immune modulation as a treatment strategy

## Invasive fungal disease in critically ill patients:

- Invasive candidiasis
  - Epidemiology
  - o Diagnosis: culture and non-culture-based methods
  - o Treatment guidelines: prophylactic, preemptive and targeted treatment
- Invasive aspergillosis in patients with COPD
- Trauma-associated mold disease
- Fungal diseases in burn patients

#### Hematology and stem cell transplantation

- Invasive mold diseases in patients with hematologic malignancies: Aspergillus and non-Aspergillus mold diseases
- Epidemiology
- Clinical and radiological manifestations
- Biomarkers: galactomannan and PCR
- Approaches to management:
  - Prophylactic treatment
  - O Diagnostic/biomarker-driven approach
  - o Empirical treatment
- Antifungal treatment and monitoring response
- Non-pharmacologic prevention of mold diseases

#### Skin and skin-structure mycoses

- Pathogens
  - Dermatophytes
  - o Candida and non-Candida yeasts: Malassezia, Microascus (Scopulariopsis)
  - o Non-dermatophyte molds: Aspergillus spp., Fusarium spp., Mucorales
- Subcutaneous infections
  - o Eumycetoma
  - Chromoblastomycosis
  - Sporotrichosis
- Epidemiology
- Host susceptibility
- Diagnosis
- Clinical manifestations
- Treatment

#### Fungal infections of upper airways and ears

- Fungal sinusitis
  - o Allergic fungal sinusitis
  - Invasive fungal sinusitis
  - o Chronic granulomatous invasive fungal sinusitis
- Rhino-orbital-cerebral mucormycosis
- Fungal otitis
- Base of skull osteomyelitis

#### Ocular fungal disease

- Chorioretinitis
- Endogenous endophthalmitis
- Exogenous endophthalmitis
- Fungal keratitis

## **Endemic and travel related mycoses**

- Histoplasmosis
- Coccidioidomycoses
- Blastomycoses
- Paracoccidioidomycoses
- Emergomycoses

## Post-viral fungal diseases

- Influenza-associated pulmonary aspergillosis
- COVID-associated pulmonary aspergillosis
- COVID-associated mucormycosis

## Fungal diseases of the central nervous system

- Cryptococcal meningoencephalitis
- Post-neurosurgical infections:
  - Post operative meningitis, brain abscess and ventricular shunt infections
- CNS involvement in endemic mycoses: coccidioidomycosis, blastomycoses, histoplasmosis
- Cerebral aspergillosis, mucormycosis and fusariosis

• Outbreaks of fungal CNS infections related to non-sterile injection

## **Vulvovaginal candidiasis**

- Sporadic, recurrent, and chronic VVC
- Epidemiology
- Host susceptibility
- Diagnosis
- Treatment
- Prevention

# Treatment guidelines for invasive fungal diseases

- Formulating treatment guidelines
- Grading system for recommendations
- Real world impact of guidelines
- Guidelines for invasive candidiasis
- Guidelines for aspergillosis
- Guidelines for mucormycosis

## Infections in pediatric patients

- How pediatric patients differ from adults with respect to IFD:
  - Epidemiology, host susceptibility
  - o Clinical manifestations
  - Antifungal drug response
- Pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics in pediatrics