



Instituto
de Salud
Carlos III



Emerging fungal pathogens: clinical usefulness of new diagnostic tools and identification methods



EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOP: Invasive infections due to rare or emerging yeasts and moulds: clinical aspects, diagnosis and treatment

15th ECCMID, Copenhagen

April 2nd 2005

MANUEL CUENCA-ESTRELLA



The Fungal Pathogens

- 120,000 validly described species of fungi
- >1,000,000 suspected species
- 200 species are recognized as primary pathogens of man and animals (around 100 as IFI)
- 5-10 new pathogens per year in last decade



Should Fungal Pathogens
causing IFI be Identified at
Species Level ?

NO

Fungal infections are
considered the same
No therapeutic alternatives



Should Fungal Pathogens
causing IFI be Identified at
Species Level ?

YES, BUT
Surveillance Programs
Epidemiological reasons



Should Fungal Pathogens
causing IFI be Identified at
Species Level ?

YES

There is sufficient evidence
to recommend that



Candida, azole agents and Blood cultures

	% resistant strains			
	n	Fluco	Itra	Vori
<i>C. albicans</i>	536	0,74	0,37	0,22
<i>C. parap.</i>	473	0,42	0,42	0
<i>C. tropicalis</i>	175	3,4	4	3,73
<i>C. glabrata</i>	151	29,1	29,1	10,5
<i>C. krusei</i>	76	100	6,5	9,3

Datos del Servicio de Micología. CNM. ISCIII



Aspergillus y Anfotericina B

There is some clinical correlation

	% strains with MICs \geq 2 mg/l	
	n	Anfotericina B
<i>A. fumigatus</i>	268	1,80
<i>A. flavus</i>	65	23,1
<i>A. terreus</i>	65	53,8

Datos del Servicio de Micología. CNM. ISCIII



Scedosporium y Paecilomyces

There is some clinical correlation

	% de cepas resistentes a			
	n	Anfo B	Itra	Vori
<i>S. apiospermum</i>	46	91,3	95,6	13,3
<i>S. prolificans</i>	44	100	100	100
<i>P. variotii</i>	11	0	0	36,3
<i>P. lilacinus</i>	10	100	90	22,2

Datos del Servicio de Micología. CNM. ISCIII



Then...

It would be right to do that. If not, surveillance programs should be implemented at least



But, how can I do that taking into account the resources of my hospital, center, university... ?

Are there new diagnostic tools with clinical usefulness ?



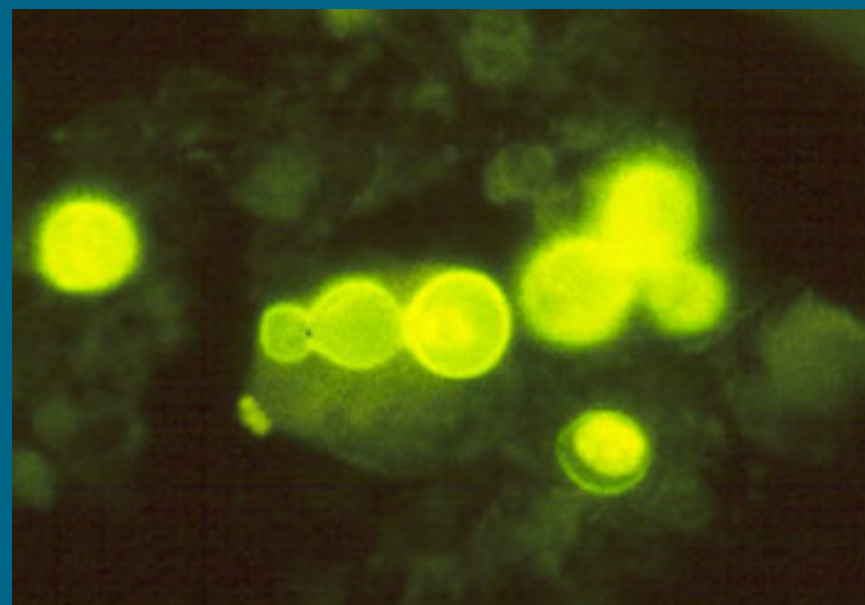
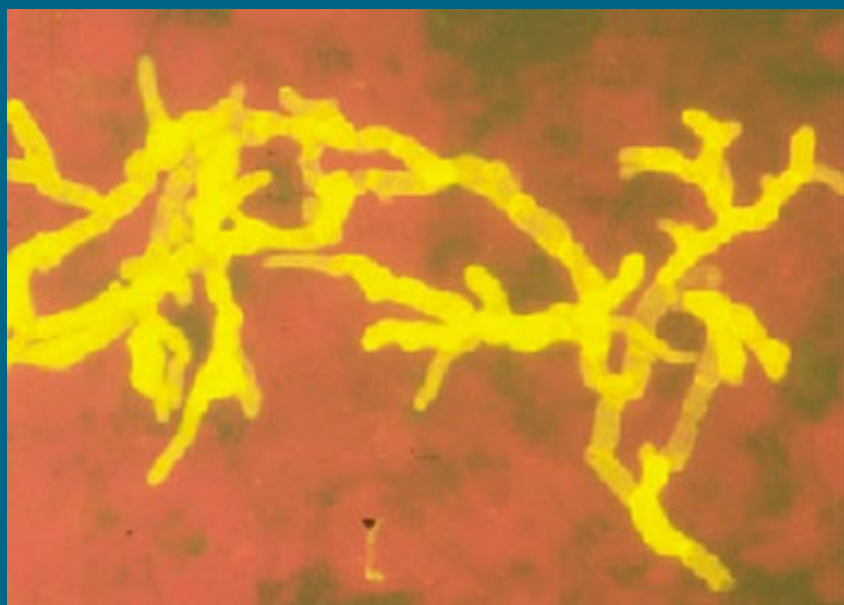
Laboratory procedures for diagnosis of IFI

- Direct Microscopic Examination
- Histopathologic studies
- Culture
 - Conventional identification
 - Molecular methods
- Serologic Testing
- Molecular Diagnostics



Microscopic examination

Technique	Useful to...	It takes...
Calcofluor	Fungi	1 min

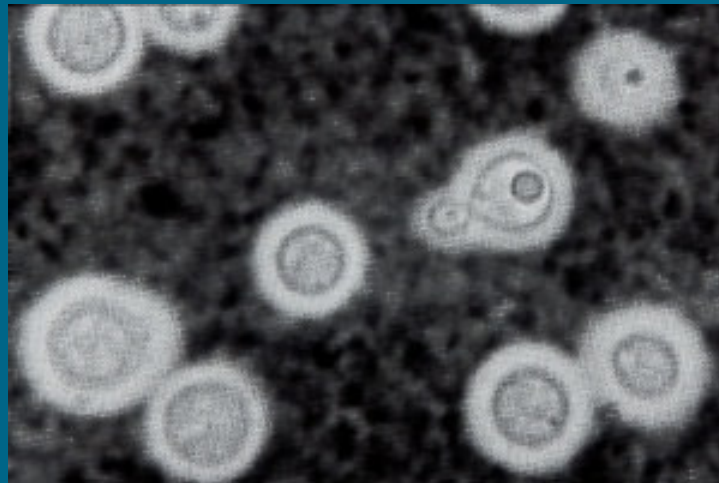


BAL samples



Microscopic examination

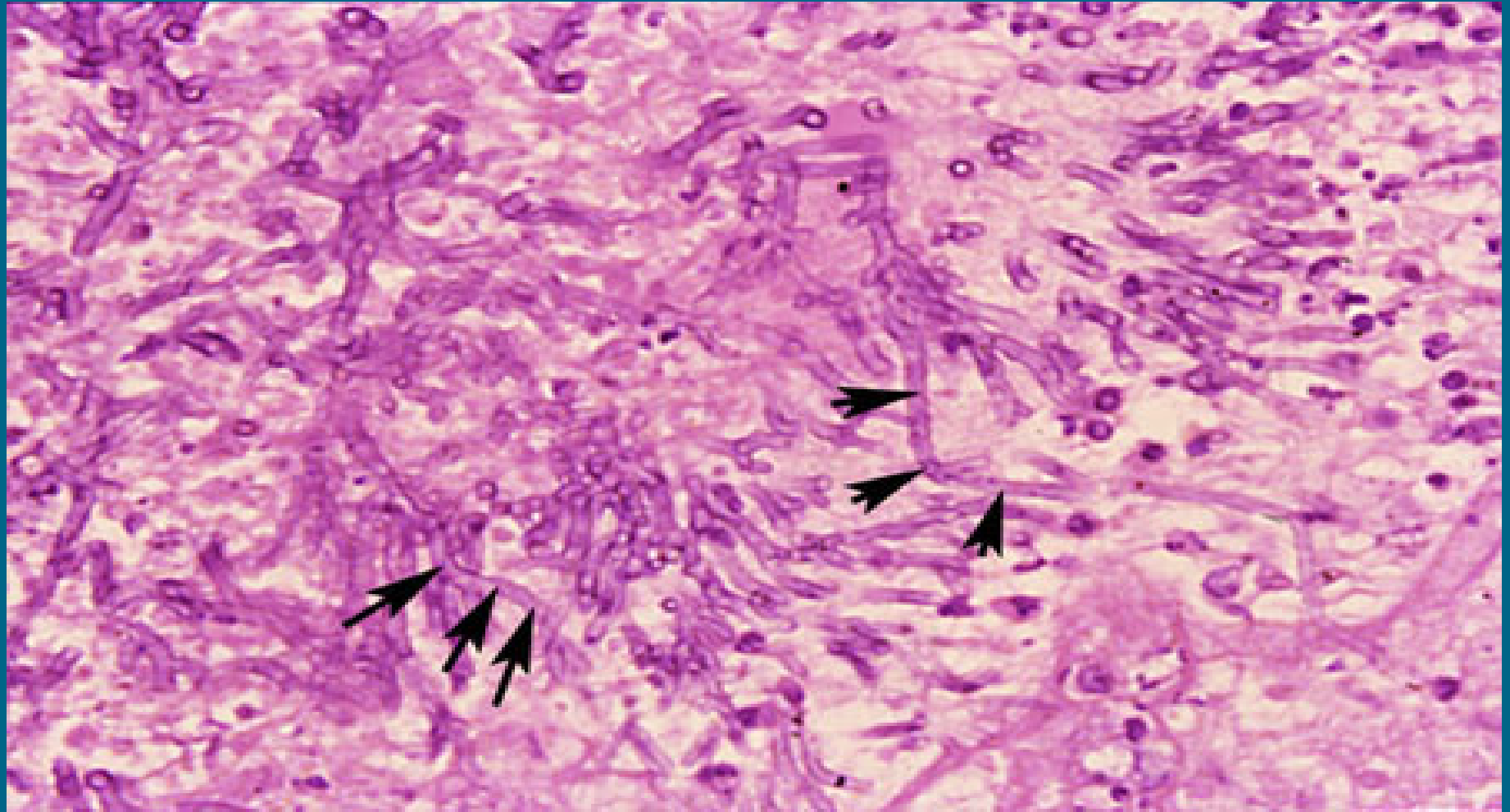
Method	Useful to...	It takes...
Indian Ink	<i>C. neoformans</i> in CSF	1 min



CSF



Histopathologic studies





Histopathologic studies

It detects fungi in tissues:

Yeasts

Hyaline Filamentous Fungi

Phaeohyphomycetes

but not fungal identification





Identification with Histopathologic studies

COCCIDIOIDOMYCOSIS

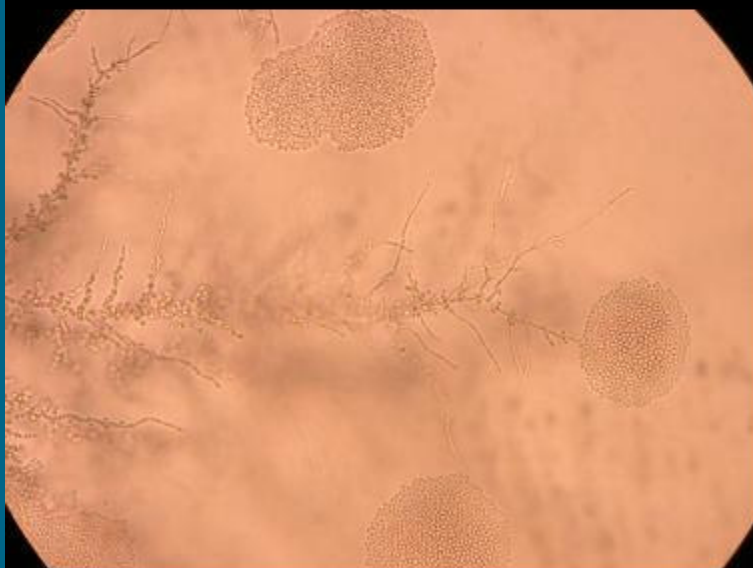
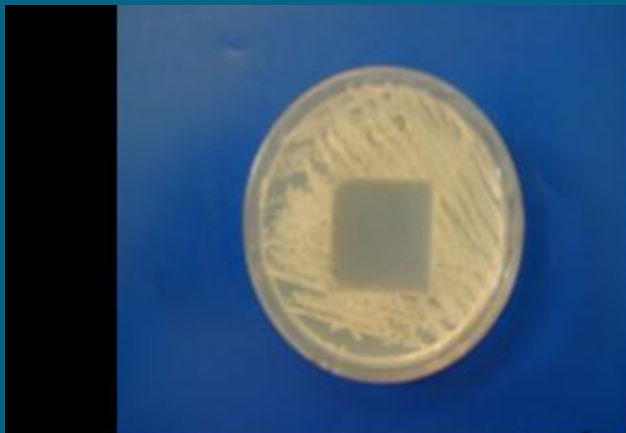


Image Courtesy of M. McGinnis
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Cultures

Conventional Identification





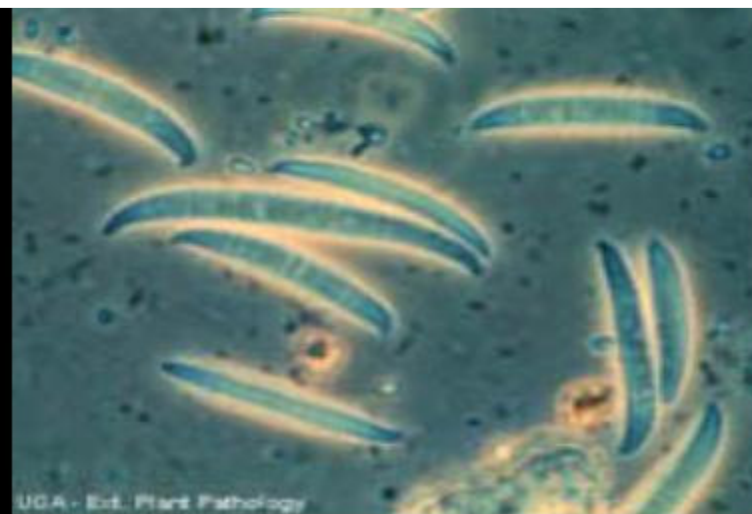
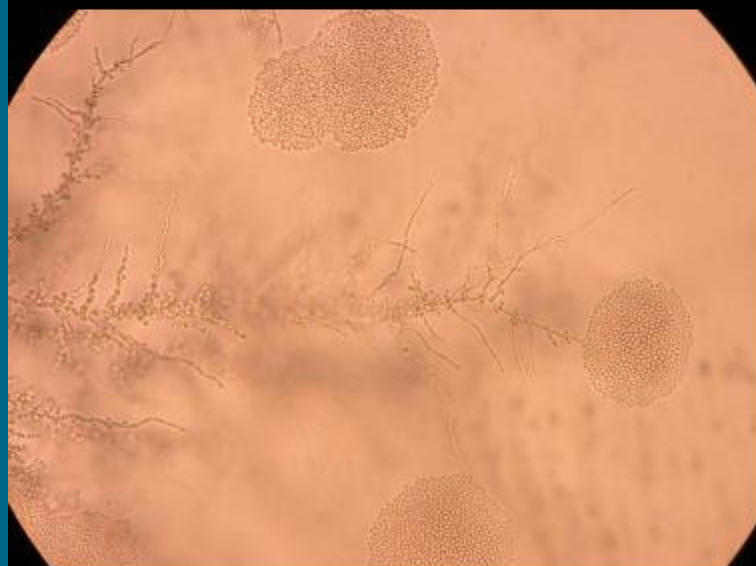
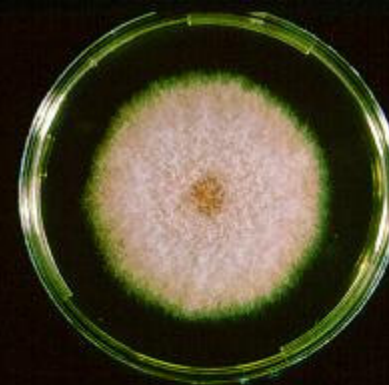
Cultures

Conventional Identification

Candida parapsilosis on CMA



Fusarium solani on MEA





Cultures

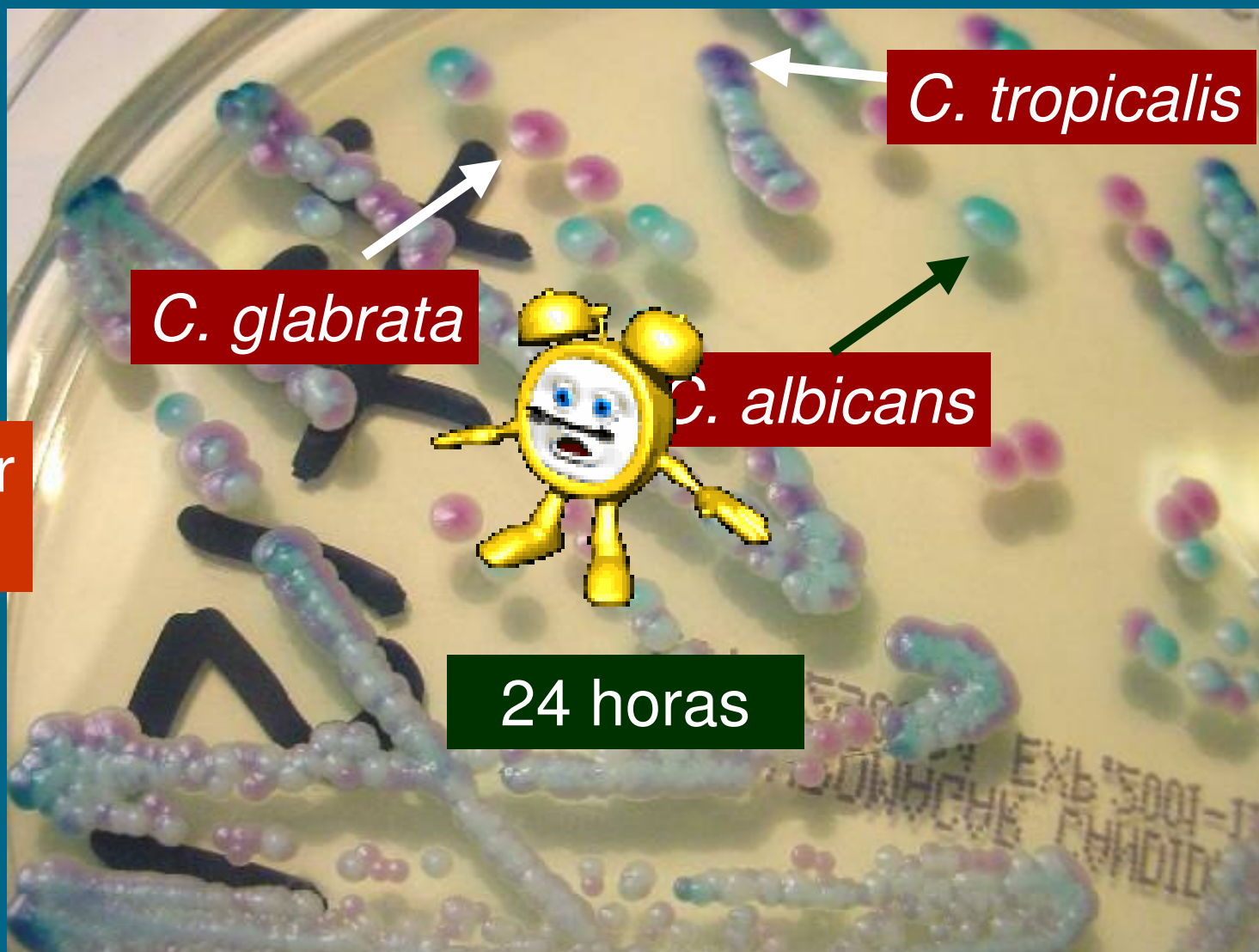
Conventional Identification

But for most of fungi it takes 1 week to months





Something new in conventional identification



Chromagar
Candida

24 horas



Cultures

Molecular Methods

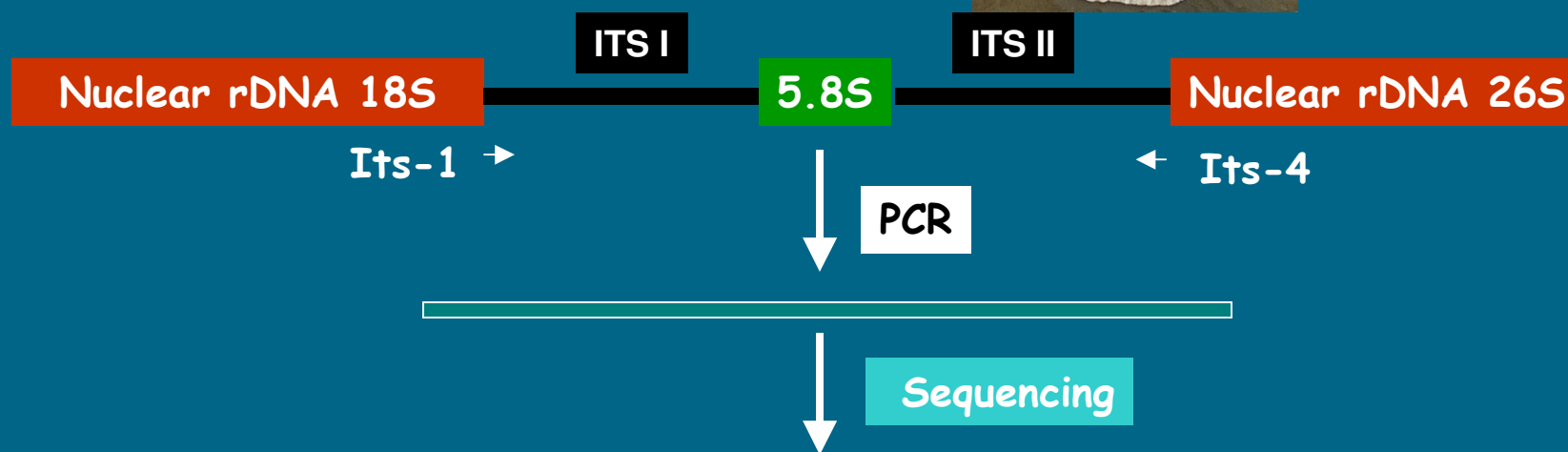
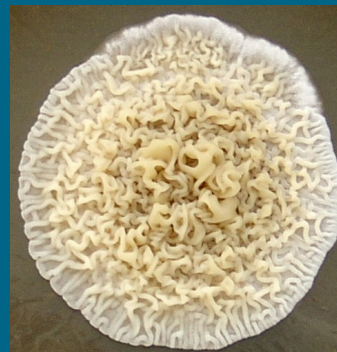
Yeast or filamentous fungi





Cultures Molecular Methods

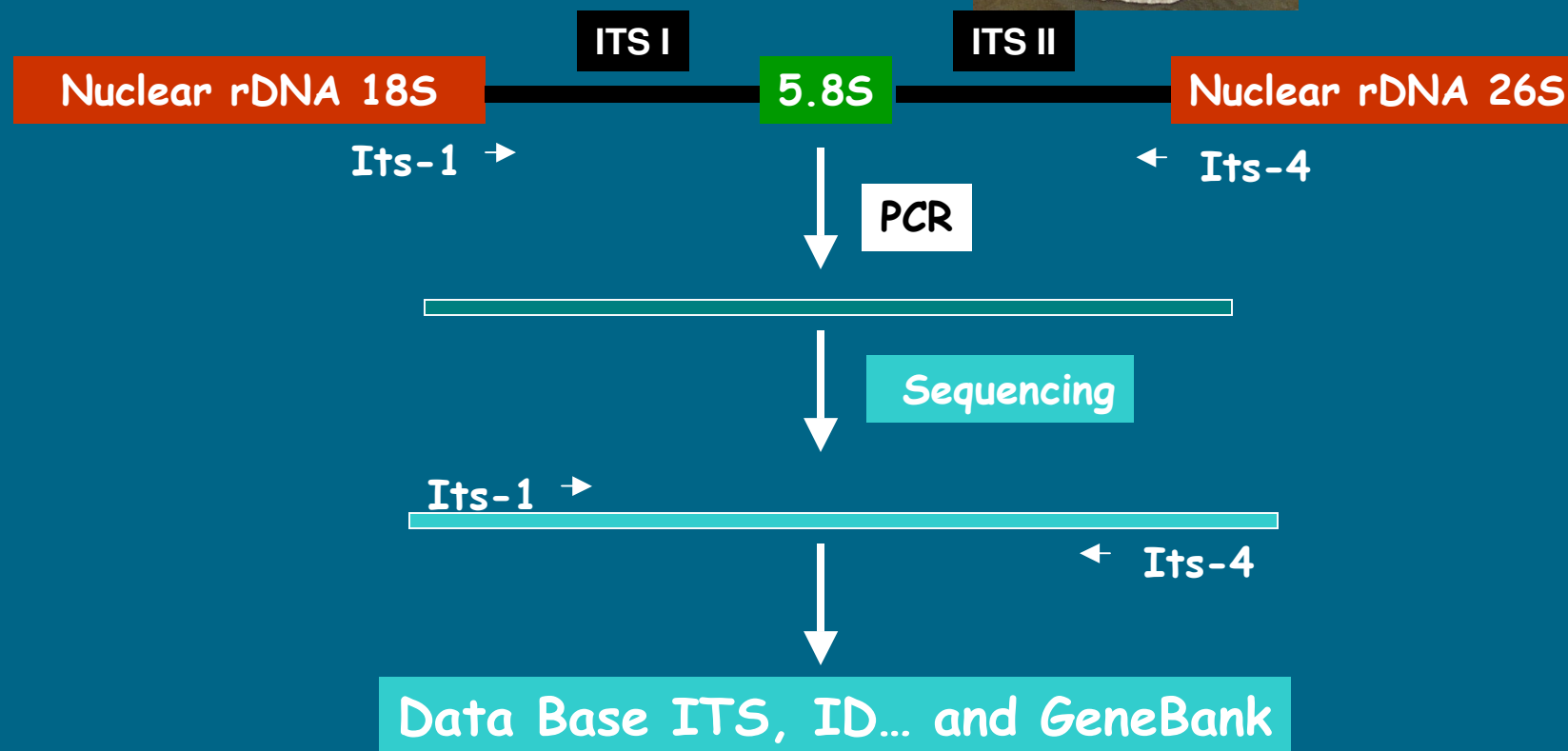
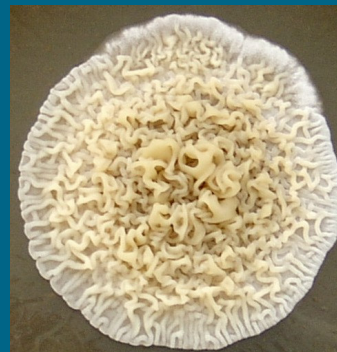
Yeast or filamentous fungi





Cultures Molecular Methods

Yeast or filamentous fungi





Cultures Molecular Methods

Yeast or filamentous



**It could take 48 h
to identification**

ITS

← Its-4

Database ITS, ID... and GeneBank



But Pitfalls

- Non standardized methods
- Expensive equipments
- Lack of experience
- Non reliable data base for emerging-rare fungi



But Pitfalls

- Non-sterile clinical methods
- Expensive
- Lack of expertise
- Non-functional

They are available only at some reference centers that are normally away from clinical practice

ng-rare





Serologic Testing

- Conventional techniques:
 - They seldom exhibit clinical utility
 - Serology for dimorphic filamentous primary pathogenic fungi
 - Detection of capsular antigen of *C. neoformans*
- New techniques:
 - Galactomannan for *Aspergillus*
 - Mannan for *Candida*
 - Other antigen-antibody tests
 - Detection of beta-glucan



Serologic Testing

- Conventional techniques:
 - They often have low sensitivity
 - Serologic tests:
 - Galactomannan is a outstanding contribution to the diagnosis of aspergillosis in onco-haematological patients
 - *Aspergillus fumigatus* and *Aspergillus nidulans*
 - Direct immunofluorescence
 - Indirect immunofluorescence
 - Enzyme immunoassays (EIA) tests
 - Detection of beta-glucan



Serologic Testing

- Other new techniques need validation
- Beta-D-glucan detection can be useful for some patients suffering from IFI
- Then, for emerging pathogens...



(1,3)-Beta-D-Glucan Detection (GlucateLL® test)



FDA license for IFI, May 21st, 2004



Detection :

- Mucorales
- Cryptococcus* spp



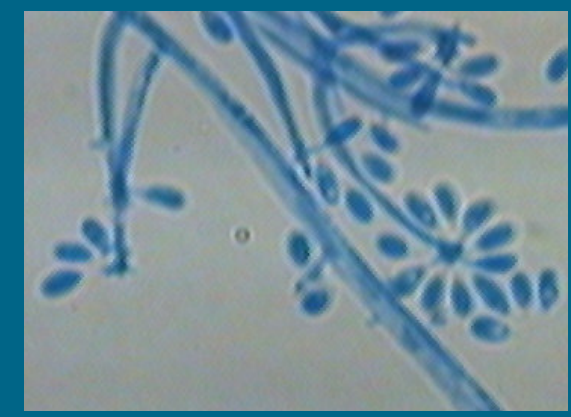
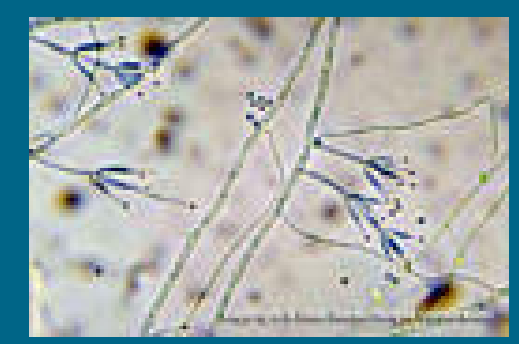
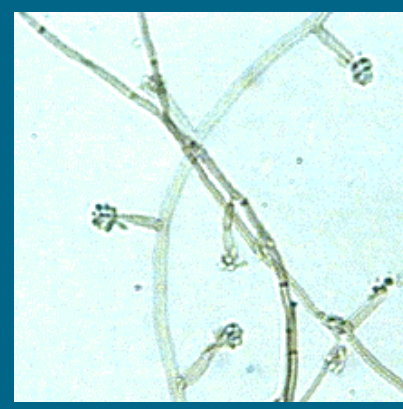
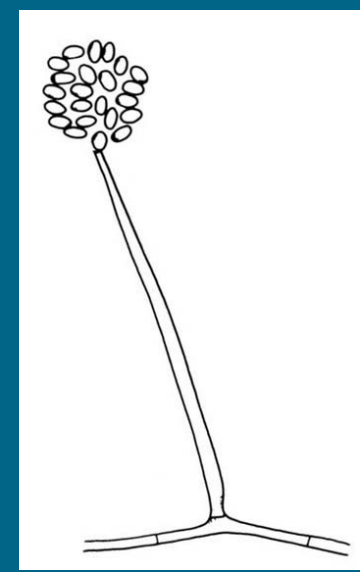
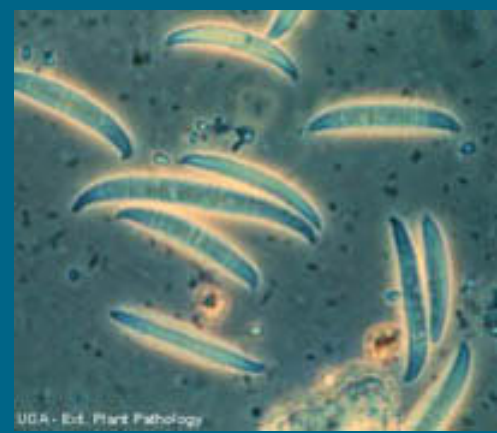
Clinical sample : serum



It takes 2 h, but
not iD at species level



Panfungal Detection





Glucate® (1.3)-Beta-DG Establishing Cut-off

- 30 healthy adults
- 30 patients nonneutropenic with symptomatic Candidemia

Odabasi et al. CID'04



Glucate® (1.3)-Beta-DG Establishing Cut-off

- 30 healthy adults
- 30 patients nonneutropenic with symptomatic Candidemia

Healthy			
Mean \pm SD	Range		
17 \pm 34 pg/ml	0-86 pg/ml		

Odabasi et al. CID'04



Glucate® (1.3)-Beta-DG Establishing Cut-off

- 30 healthy adults
- 30 patients nonneutropenic with symptomatic Candidemia

Healthy		Candidemia	
Mean \pm SD	Range	Mean \pm SD	Range
17 \pm 34 pg/ml	0-86 pg/ml	2,999 \pm 5,190	36-22,263

Odabasi et al. CID'04

Only 2 serum samples ≥ 60 pg/ml

Only 1 serum sample < 60 pg/ml

CUTOFF

≥ 60 pg/ml

ptomatic

idemia

Mean \pm SD

Range

17 \pm 34 pg/ml

0-86 pg/ml

2,999 \pm 5,190

36-22,263



Glucate® (1.3)-Beta-DG Diagnostic study

- 300 haematologic patients (283 evaluable)
 - prophylaxis with itra or caspo
 - serum samples twice a week
 - 2,070 specimens
 - 7.3 specimens/patient
- Definition of fungal infection by EORTC/MSG criteria
- Glucan assay was performed in a blinded fashion

Odabasi et al. CID'04



Glucate® (1.3)-Beta-DG Diagnostic study

- 15 Proven fungemia
 - 6 *C. glabrata*
 - 3 *T. asahii*
 - 2 *C. krusei*
 - 1 *C. albicans*, *C. tropicalis*, *C. parapsilosis* & *Fusarium* sp
- 1 Proven fungal pneumonia by *A. terreus*
- 4 probable fungal pneumonia
 - 2 *A. fumigatus*
 - 1 *A. terreus* & *C. albicans*, 1 *Fusarium*
- 33 possible fungal pneumonia



Glucate® (1.3)-Beta-DG

15 cases of Proven fungemia

	Max. BG levels	No ⊕ results	Days before
Mean	927	3	9.71
SD	981	1.9	8.2
Range	61-3,422	1-8	-32 → +2

Odabasi et al. CID'04



Glucate[®] (1.3)-Beta-DG

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Odabasi et al. CID'04



Glucate® (1.3)-Beta-DG

5 Proven & probable fungal pneumonia

	Max. BG levels	No ⊕ results	Days before
Mean	530	1.6	11.4
SD	881	1.3	9.5
Range	81-2,105	1-4	-23 → +1

Odabasi et al. CID'04



Glucate[®] (1.3)-Beta-DG

5 Proven & probable fungal pneumonia

	Max. BG levels	No ⊕ results	Days before
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SD	881	1.3	9.5
Range	81-2,105	1-4	-23 → +1

Odabasi et al. CID'04



Glucate® (1.3)-Beta-DG

No. of BG ⊕ serum samples	Proven or probable IFI			
	% S	% Sp	% PPV	% NPV



Glucate[®] (1.3)-Beta-DG

No. of BG ⊕ serum samples	Proven or probable IFI			
	% S	% Sp	% PPV	% NPV
1 ⊕ result	100	90	43	100

Odabasi et al. CID'04



Glucate[®] (1.3)-Beta-DG

No. of BG ⊕ serum samples	Proven or probable IFI			
	% S	% Sp	% PPV	% NPV
1 ⊕ result	100	90	43	100
≥ 2 ⊕ results	65	96	57	97

Odabasi et al. CID'04



Glucate[®] (1.3)-Beta-DG

No. of BG ⊕ serum samples	Proven or probable IFI			
	% S	% Sp	% PPV	% NPV
1 ⊕ result	100	90	43	100
≥ 2 ⊕ results	65	96	57	97
≥ 3 ⊕ results	60	99	80	96

Odabasi et al. CID'04



False positive results in this study

- 10 Non colonized patients
 - 10 (3.5%) patients w/o IFI
- 2 colonized (oral & urinary)
- No increase in BG serum levels



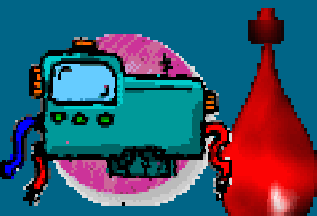
False positive results in literature



Surgical gauzes containing BG. Nakao et al' 97



Immunoglobulin products. Ikemura et al' 89



Hemodialysis with cellulose membranes. Kato et al' 01



Summary for GlucateLL® (1.3)-Beta-DG

- A new tool able to detect many fungal pathogens, but not useful for identification
- Often precedes the microbiological or clinical diagnosis
- Few cases of filamentous fungal infections in this study
- We need studies with other patients



Glucate[®] (1.3)-Beta-DG in surgical patients

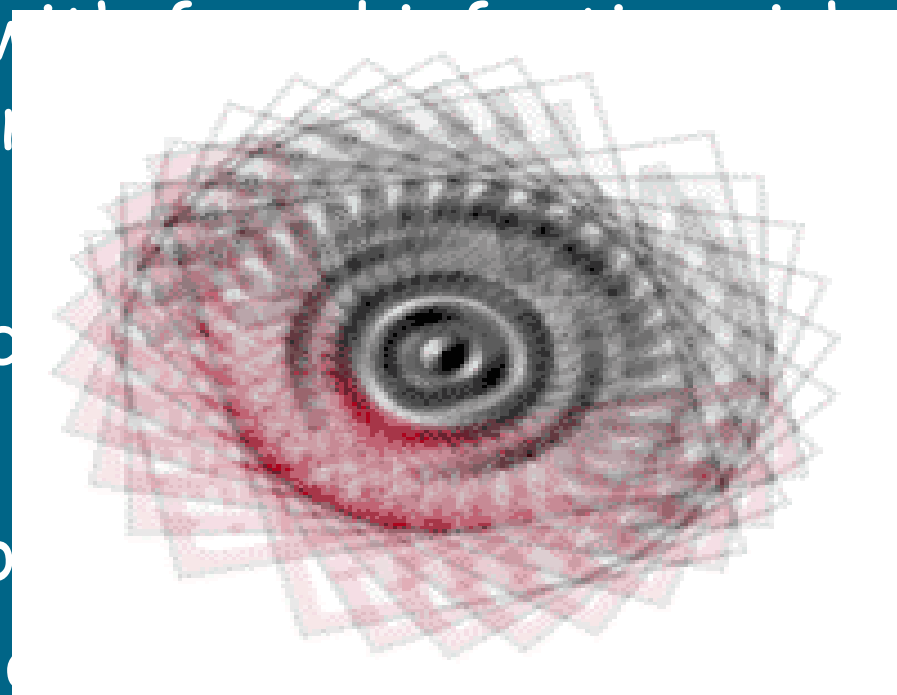
Takesue World J Surg 2004

- Surgical patients (n=254) with fungal infection risk, *Candida* spp. colonization and fever
- Fluconazole administered
- Beta-D-Glucan kinetically determined
- 32 positive patients
 - 15 (46.9%) responded to fluconazole
- 9% of negative responded as well
- OR of beta-D-glucan in colonized patients: 12.9 (2.07-80.73)



GlucateLL® (1.3)-Beta-DG in surgical patients

Takesue World J Surg 2004



- OR of beta-D-glucan in colonized patients: 12.9 (2.07-80.73)



Molecular Diagnostics

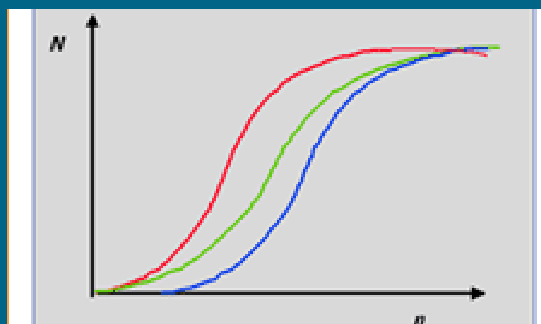
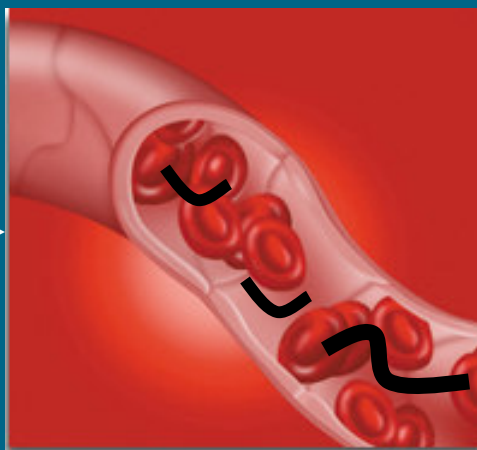
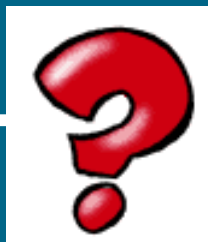
- Several approaches, many studies for distinct pathogens without clinical validation
- New breakthroughs preclude further analysis of many molecular diagnostics
- Lack of commercial methods:
 - No standardization
 - No quality control
- Lack of comparative multicenter studies



Molecular Diagnostics

- Several pathogens for distinct
 - New breakthrough analysis
 - Lack of many molecular studies
 - Lack of commercial studies
 - No standard
 - No quality
- But...**

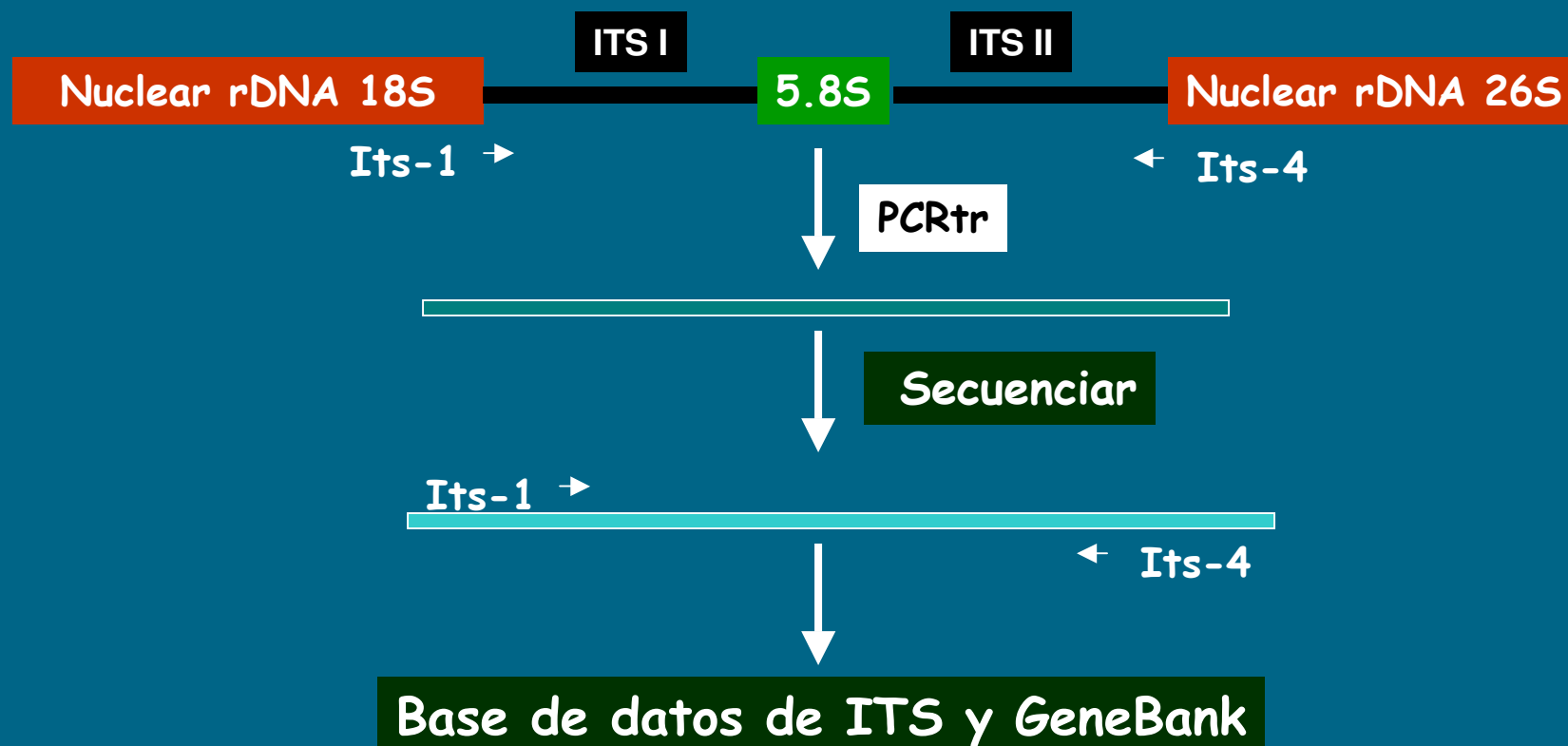
ISC





Spanish Net for study of transplant patients

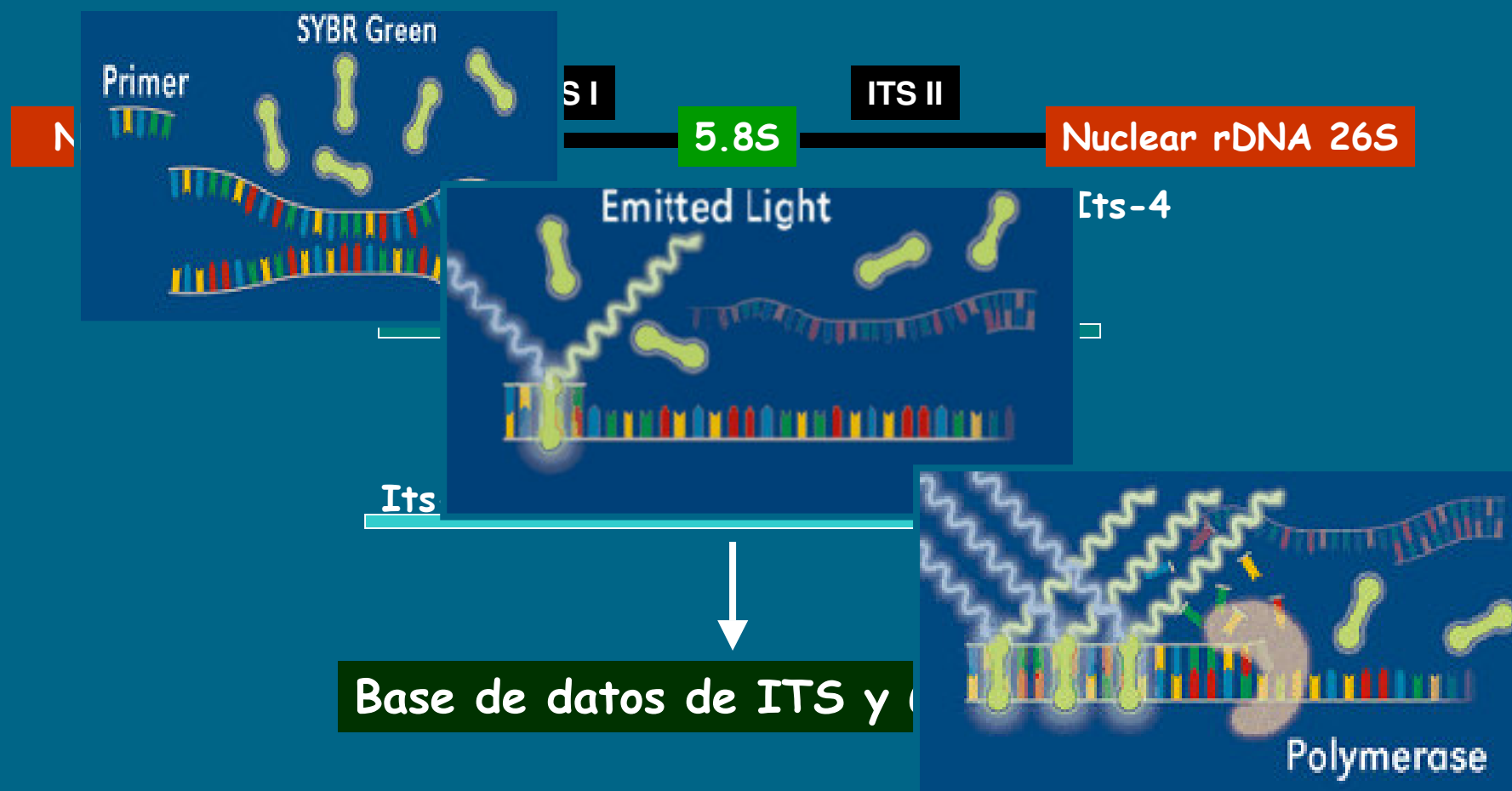
PANFUNGAL RT-PCR





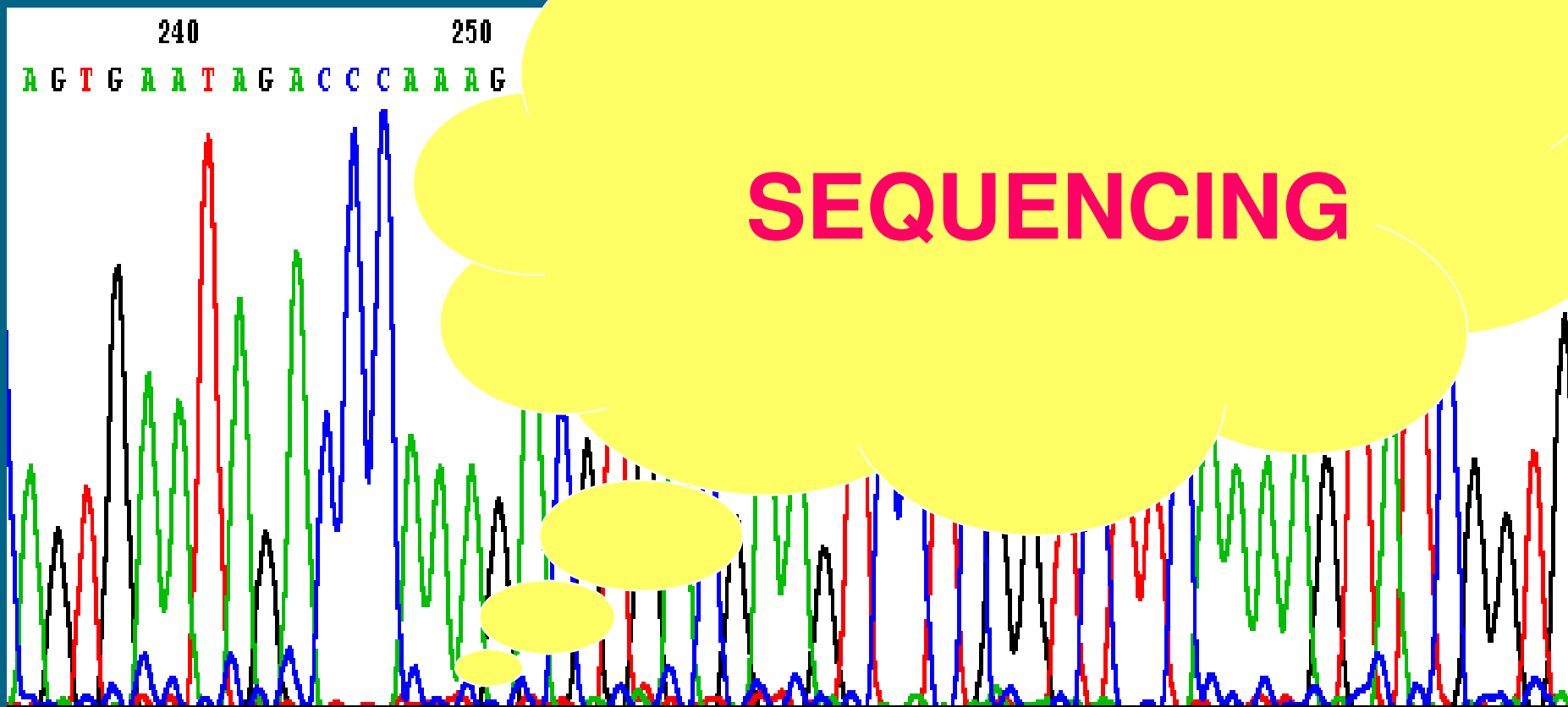
Spanish Net for study of transplant patients

PANFUNGAL RT-PCR





Spanish Net for study of transplantation





Spanish Net for study of transplant patients

NCBI Blast - Microsoft Internet Explorer

Archivo Edición Ver Favoritos Herramientas Ayuda

Dirección http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/BLAST/Blast.cgi?CMD=Web&LAYOUT=TwoWindows&AUTO_FORMAT=Semiauto&ALIGNMENTS=50&ALIGNMENT_VIEW=Pairwise&CLIENT=wt

NCBI *nucleotide-nucleotide* **BLAST**

Nucleotide Protein Translations Retrieve results for an RID

Search

Set subsequence From: To:

Choose database

Now: **BLAST!** or

Options for advanced blasting

Limit by [entrez query](#) or select from:

Choose filter Low complexity Human repeats Mask for lookup table only Mask lower case

Expect

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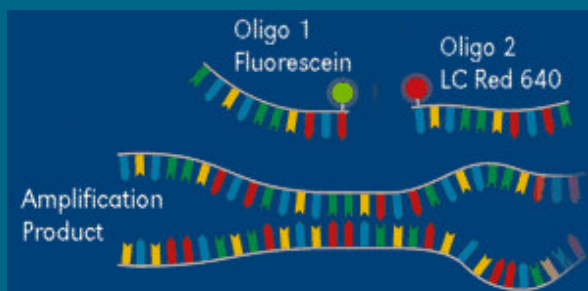
DATA BASE

Inicio | Bande... | Micros... | PCRp... | Micros... | Charl... | Diapo... | Dto_a... | NCBI ... | Internet | 17:25

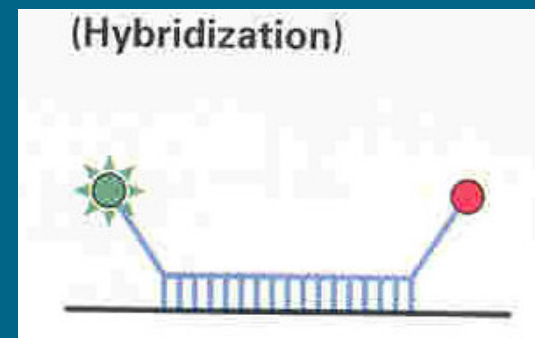
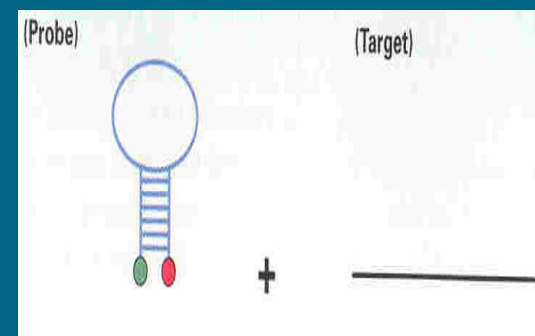
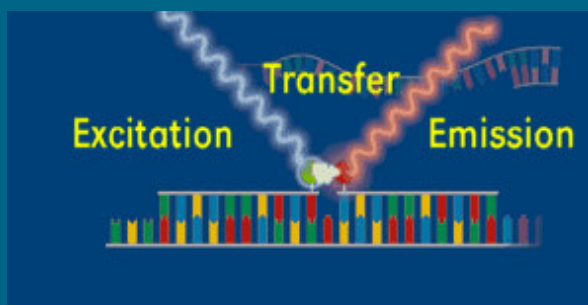
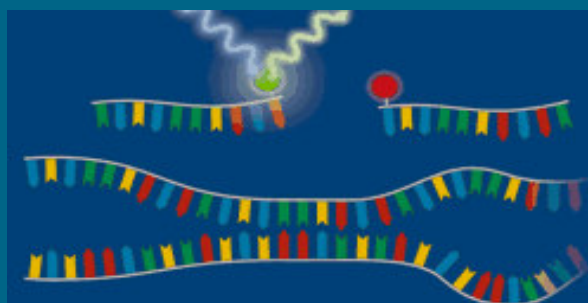


Spanish Net for study of transplant patients

SPECIFIC RT-PCR



FRET PROBES



MOLECULAR BEACONS



Spanish Net for study of treatments in patients

Candida albicans
Candida tropicalis
Candida parapsilosis

Candida glabrata

Candida krusei

Aspergillus fumigatus

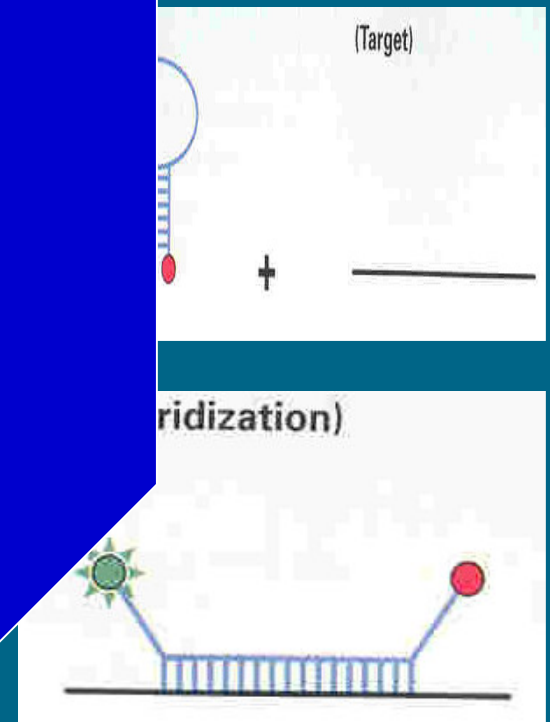
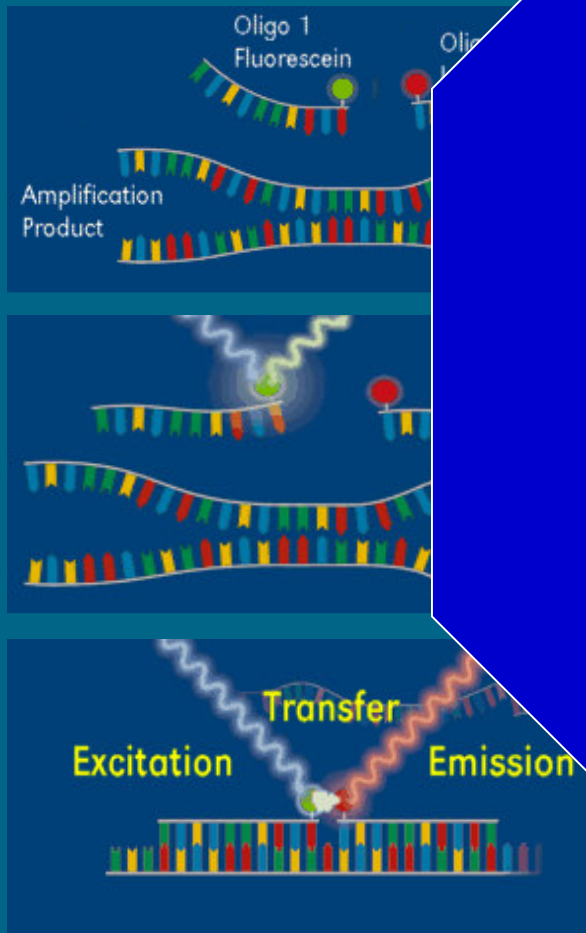
Aspergillus terreus

Aspergillus flavus

Scedosporium apiospermum

Scedosporium prolificans

**Other emerging fungal
pathogens**





Conclusions

- Identification at species level of emerging fungal pathogens is getting more useful for treating IFIs
- Several studies have showed differences in antifungal susceptibility profile with some clinical correlation
- In any case, epidemiological surveys are compulsory in order to know prevalence of emerging fungi in your geographical area



Conclusions II

- Identification of emerging fungal pathogens by conventional methods is difficult and time-consuming
- New diagnostic tools:
 - Beta-D-Glucano is useful for early diagnosis of IFI, even due to emerging pathogens, but identification at species level is not achieved
 - Molecular diagnostics could be useful, but we need validation