

ECMM report - *The Diagnosis and Therapy of Fungal Disease 5 (9-10 October 2017) Belgrade, Serbia*

The Diagnosis and Therapy of Fungal Disease (DTFD) has become an important and essential national meeting in the field of fungal diseases in Serbia. This DTFD was the fifth meeting in the series organized by the Serbian Society of Medical Mycology (SSMM), which has significantly contributed to the implementation of vast number of diagnostic and therapeutic standards on national level. Since the society is collaborating with societies in Europe and the world, the event was co-organized by Faculty of Medicine University of Belgrade and by FEMS. Also, DTFD 5 was supported by European Confederation of Medical Mycology (ECMM) and by International Society of Human and Animal Mycology (ISHAM).

This first international symposium, held in English, was made possible thanks to ECMM, ISHAM and FEMS grants. It had 64 participants in total (from Serbia 47 and from abroad 17). Unfortunately 25 participants from Nigeria, Somalia and Pakistan registered for this event were unable to attend because of visa procedure difficulties.

The scientific program was focused on Fungal infections in neonates and included plenary sessions, posters and the round table sessions. The forum was created with a vision of successful knowledge and skills implementation relying on the expertise of the top personnel whose combination of experience and knowledge provided professional-quality analysis of patients in the field of medical mycology. The meeting was designed for medical microbiologists, pediatricians, neonatologists, gynecologists, infectious disease specialists, and all those with interests in medical mycology.

The symposium lasted for one day and a half. Starting in the afternoon, registration and poster display took place on 9th October. On 10th October, the symposium was officially opened following the introduction messages of representatives on SSMM, ECMM, ISHAM and FEMS associations.

On behalf of ECMM the opening speech was given by prof dr Ester Segal, ECMM board member.

The event was presented with 4 sessions with 17 oral presentations in total:

First session titled “Major and minor “players” in neonatology” was chaired by professors Lena Klingspor and Thomas Walsh;

Second session titled “Fighting against fungi outside the host” was chaired by professors Mihai Mares and Suzana Otasevic;

Third session titled “Which test is the best for diagnosis of fungal disease?” was chaired by professors Michaela Lackner and Valentina Arsic Arsenijevic;

Forth session titled “Antifungals and treatment strategy- What is new?” was chaired by professors Esther Segal and Dragana Janic;

Invited speakers presented following topics:

- Lena Klingspor: The importance of *Candida* and other yeast infections in neonates: epidemiology data and diagnostic options
- Mihai Mares: Prevention of *Candida* transmission to neonates -a multifaceted issue
- Suzana Otasevic: Maternal genital *Candida* colonization: the major risk for neonates infection.
- Michaela Lackner: Utility of PCR diagnosis of invasive fungal infections in neonates
- Valentina Arsic Arsenijevic: *Candida* and *Fusarium* sepsis in Serbian paediatric and neonatology settings- the role of blood culture
- Miha Skvarc: Early laboratory biomarkers for sepsis prediction: role of BD glucan in neonatology
- Esther Segal: Packaging methods of antifungal drugs
- Lidija Senerovic: Novel therapeutic strategies for mixed infections: controlling bacterial-fungal interaction, signaling and quorum sensing

Early Career Scientist presented following topic as oral (O) or posters (P):

O.01 VIRULENCE FACTORS AND SUSCEPTIBILITY OF *CANDIDA* SPP. Nikola Stojanovic (Serbia)

P.01 MONITORING OF MICROSCOPIC FILAMENTOUS FUNGI IN INDOOR AIR AND IN THE NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE UNITS Miljana Mistic, Katarina Milincic, Iris Pejic, Milica Rankovic, Mirosljub Milincic (Serbia)

P.02 ISOLATION RATE AND ANTIFUNGAL SUSCEPTIBILITIES OF *CANDIDA* SPECIES FROM CLINICAL SPECIMENS IN A UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL, THESSALONIKI, GREECE Myrsini Chatzi, Efthymia Protonotariou, Olia Vasilaki,, Ioanna Gkeka, Vasilis Draganoudis, Antonia Landa, Georgia Kagkalou, Lemonia Skoura (Greece)

P.04 SUSCEPTIBILITY OF *CANDIDA* SPECIES TO FLUCONAZOLE AND BUTOCONASOLE IN PREGNANT SERBIAN WOMEN: POSSIBLE ROLE OF MATERNAL SCREENING OF VULVOVAGINAL CANDIDIASIS AND THERAPY IN THE PREVENTION OF INFECTION OF THE NEWBORN Dragana Srebro, Aleksandra Trajković, Biljana Živaljević, Aleksandar Jurišić (Serbia)

P.05 DISTRIBUTION OF *CANDIDA* SPECIES INVOLVED IN SYSTEMIC INFECTIONS OCCURRED IN HOSPITALIZED PATIENTS Ionut Pecete, Violeta Corina Cristea, Irina Gheorghe, Carmen Murariu, Mariana Carmen Chifiriuc, Tatiana Vassu (Romania)

P.06 SCREENING FOR AZOLE-RESISTANT *ASPERGILLUS FUMIGATUS* ISOLATES FROM CLINICAL SAMPLES AND HOSPITAL AIR R. Tomazin, M. Ločniškar, J. I. Pilih, T. Matos (Slovenia)

P.07 MICRODILUTION TECHNIQUES FOR SUSCEPTIBILITY TESTING OF PATHOGENIC YEASTS A. Obreza, R. Tomazin, T. Matos (Slovenia)

Following meeting conclusion were made and future activities:

- Regional centre for clinical and diagnostic mycology -formation
- Clinical and diagnostic mycology - summer school organization
- Regional medical mycology education advancement (Balkanfungus) www.balkanfungus.eu

All presented ppt are available online for participants as form of educational material www.mikologija.org.rs and www.dtfid.org

Total number of 12 grants for young researchers and 8 grants for invited speakers were distributed.

All this made contribution to success of DTFD-5.

We kindly thanks to ECMM for this significant support.

Belgrade, 14/11/2017

prof. dr Valentina Arsić Arsenijević



PHOTO GALERY *The Diagnosis and Therapy of Fungal Disease 5* (9-10 October 2017) Belgrade, Serbia
More photo available on <http://mikologija.org.rs/dtgo-5-galerija/>