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Epidemiology and outcomes of 803 episodes of candidaemia in a single center

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Background: Candidemia is an important cause of bloodstream infection and it causes significant morbidity and mortality in the healthcare setting. We aimed to assess the epidemiology and outcomes of all consecutive episodes of candidemia in our center from 25 years.

Material/methods: All episodes of candidemia prospectively documented at a university hospital from Jan 1991 to Dec 2015 were included. We also compared pts who died with those who survived in order to identify risk factors associated with mortality.

Results: A total of 803 episodes of candidemia were documented. The most common comorbidities were solid-organ cancer (22.9%) and haematological neoplasm (19.2%). Breakthrough candidemia was diagnosed in 19.1% of patients. The most frequent sources of candidemia were endogenous/unknown (40.2%) and catheter-related (36.2%). *C. albicans* (46.3%) was the most common specie isolated, followed by *C. parapsilosis* (18.3%) and *C. tropicalis* (13.9%). The frequency of *C. glabrata* has increased in the last five years (11.5% vs. 18.1%; p=.02). No azol-nonsusceptible *C. albicans* and *C. tropicalis* were documented. An inadequate empirical treatment was given in 75% of patients. Fluconazole was the most common antifungal administrated (52%), followed by

echinocandins (21%). Persistent candidemia was documented in 16.4% cases. The 30-day overall crude mortality and related mortality were 29.4% and 21.8%, respectively. Older age (OR 2.0; 95% CI 1.3-3), chronic renal failure (2.8; 1.4-5.7), shock at onset (6.9; 4.1-11.4) were independent risk factors for mortality (30d). Adequate treatment (.5; .3-.8) and Mc Cabe non-fatal prognosis were a protective factor (.2; .13-.3)

Conclusions: Candidemia caused by *C. glabrata* has increased in the recent years. Mortality remains high, especially in elderly patients with liver and renal chronic diseases. Shock and neutropenia at onset are related with worst outcomes while adequate antifungal treatment improves prognosis.