EV0745
ePoster Viewing
Fungal disease epidemiology & clinical trials

Prevalence and distribution of Candida species in Turkish women with vulvovaginitis symptoms

Süleyman Pelit*[1], Ayse Baris[2], Gonca Erkose Genc[3]

[1]*Istanbul Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Training and Research Hospital, Clinical Microbiology Laboratory, Istanbul, Turkey*

[2]*Sisli Hamidiye Etfal Training and Research Hospital, Clinical Microbiology Laboratory, Istanbul, Turkey*

[3]*Istanbul University, Istanbul Faculty of Medicine, Department of Medical Microbiology, Istanbul, Turkey*

Background: Candida infection of the vagina is a common problem that causes significant morbidity in women. The main objective of this study was to determine the prevalence and distribution of Candida species in women with vulvovaginal symptoms.

Material/methods: A total of 889 vaginal swabs were collected from female patients (19-54 years old) between May and October 2015. Gram stained smears were performed directly on the specimens. Cultures for Candida species were done using sabouraud dextrose agar (Salubris, Turkey) and chromogenic Candida agar (RTA, Turkey) for two days at 37 ˚C. Candida yeasts isolated from the samples were identified with MALDI-TOF MS (Bruker Daltonics, Germany).

Results: Among 889 women with symptoms of vulvovaginitis, 128 (14.4%) were positive for Candida species 90 (70.3%) of which were *C. albicans* and 38 (29.7%) were non-albicans species. Among 38 non-albicans species, 28 (73.7%) were *C. glabrata*, four (10.5%) were *C.krusei*, two (5.3%)were *C. lusitaniae*, one (2.6%) was *C. tropicalis*, one (2.6%) was *C. parapsilosis*, one (2.6%) was *C. dubliniensis* and one (2.6%) was *C. kefyr* (Table 1). Gram stained smears were positive for ≥5 polymorphonuclear leukocytes per high-power field and yeast cells. Approximately 30% of Candida species isolated from women with vulvovaginal symptoms were non-albicans species 74% of which were *C. glabrata*.

Conclusions: As a result of increased prevalence of non-albicans species in patients with vulvovaginal symptoms, the identification of Candida strains, that are less likely to respond to an azole agent, is important for appropriate treatment of the infections.