



Working Group Interim Report

1	Title of Working Group	Asia Fungal Working Group
2	Name(s) of Coordinator(s)	Dr Arunaloke Chakrabarti, Dr Ban Hock Tan
3	Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To advance the understanding, diagnosis and management of fungal diseases and its related fields in Asia • To promote research and collaborative studies in fungal infections epidemiology, diagnosis and management • To disseminate knowledge and information on subjects related to fungal diseases through education and training • To establish and foster relations between those working towards the objectives of the Working Group, through meetings, publications, and by promoting personal contacts, collaboration and the exchange of ideas and information
4	Achievements of the Working Group in last year (250 words)	<p>The ISHAM Asia Fungal Working Group (AFWG) has had another fruitful year of educational and research initiatives in 2014. The 4th regional Medical Mycology Training Network, organized by the AFWG in February 2014, was another resounding success. The meeting was attended by more than 80 physicians, microbiologists and mycologists from eight countries across the Asia-Pacific region, making it the largest training to date. The two-day program was led by the AFWG committee members and international experts, who provided updates and shared experience in the diagnosis and management of fungal infections through distinguished plenary lectures, parallel clinical and practical workshops, problem-based roundtable learning and multidisciplinary panel discussion.</p> <p>The AFWG also conducted a 12-month, multicenter, laboratory-based surveillance study in 25 centers from China, Hong Kong,</p>

		<p>India, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand. Analysis of the incidence and species distribution of <i>Candida</i> infection reveals interesting regional variability and provides useful data for comparison with global trends. Results of the study are being submitted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal.</p> <p>A retrospective study on invasive mold infections is also being carried out by the AFWG, in 5 Asian centers. Data from the study will be invaluable in defining epidemiology as well as capturing clinical characteristics, treatment and outcomes of patient with invasive mold infections in Asia. Data collection for the study will be completed by 2014.</p>
5	Is your Working Group going to continue for the next three years?	Yes