

Working Group Interim Report

1	Title of Working Group	Barcoding of Medical Fungi
2	Name(s) of Coordinator(s)	Wieland Meyer, Sybren de Hoog
3	Objectives	Coordinate barcoding activities and exchange data / methods
4	Achievements of the Working Group in last year (250 words)	<p><i>Joint meeting organized by ECMM/ISHAM working group Scedosporium infections and ISHAM working group Barcoding Medical Fungi</i></p> <p>Part of the meeting was organized in the format of a masterclass, meaning that all participants received the same strain set with the request to apply their own method of research. Presentations then focused on pitfalls and possibilities of the methods. The set of strains consisted of five isolates belonging to the <i>Scedosporium apiospermum</i> complex (including <i>S. apiosperma</i>, <i>S. boydii</i>, <i>P. angusta</i> and <i>P. fusoidea</i>) and isolates of <i>S. aurantiacum</i>. With this shared task we aimed to figure out, using a panel of a wide range of methods and investigators with different expertise, which species within the <i>S. apiospermum</i> complex represent species and which are subpopulations or variants. Also other types of research were presented, such as on antifungals and on current and alternative animal models. Thirty talks were given by participating teams highlighting their methods and achieved results. About 90 researchers from the Americas, Australia, Asia, Africa and Europe took part in this meeting.</p> <p>A special issue of Fungal Biology on barcoding is being prepared; submission deadline is 31 December, 2014.</p> <p>Further a session on barcoding was organized at the International Mycological Congress in Bangkok.</p> <p>An ITS barcoding database was set up and submitted as multi-authored paper to Medical Mycology.</p>
5	Is your Working Group going to continue for the next three years?	The working group will be active for several years to come. Workshops will be organized in close cooperation with other working groups, because

		barcoding is the approach, and the others provide the material to be barcoded.
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