



Working Group Interim Report

1	Title of Working Group	<i>Sporothrix schenckii</i> and related species
2	Name(s) of Coordinator(s)	Leila M. Lopes Bezerra (Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) and Hector Mora Montes (Universidad Guanajuato, Mexico)
3	Objectives	<p>The working group seeks the study of biosynthesis, structure, function and roles in virulence and immune sensing of <i>S. schenckii</i> cell wall components. Therefore, we had expanded our goals to projects including genomic and proteomic aspects to address the host-fungus interplay and other factors that can impact fungus virulence.</p> <p>During the ISHAM Meeting 2012, in Berlin, the working group coordination organized an open meeting for the scientific community. The general view was to expand the current WG goals, in order to make the WG more inclusive and to gather as much researchers interested in this fungus. The new topics included are: clinical and veterinary aspects of sporotrichosis, epidemiology and phylogenetics.</p>
4	Achievements of the Working Group in last year (250 words)	<p>The 1st International Meeting on <i>Sporothrix</i> and Sporotrichosis was proposed as a goal in the WG interim report of 2012. This meeting was organized by the WG Coordination and took place at the University of the State of Rio de Janeiro/Brazil in 2-4 October, 2013. The president of the meeting was Dr. Leila Lopes Bezerra and she succeed in getting financial support from ISHAM, UERJ and Brazilian scientific agencies (CAPES and FAPERJ).</p> <p>The 1st International Meeting on <i>Sporothrix</i> and Sporotrichosis fulfilled its purpose by encouraging new collaborations and complementary approaches to further increase our knowledge of this emergent disease. During the three days of the meeting, 83 participants from 4 different continents (9 countries) actively participated in</p>

		<p>the meeting. The scientific debates were guided by the intriguing results presented in 44 oral presentations and 66 poster presentations. During the meeting, there was a huge debate about tools to control the zoonotic outbreak and the necessity to put in place new guidelines to treat animal and human sporotrichosis, especially among countries where new species are emerging fast. Interesting new data were exposed focusing on cell biology of <i>Sporothrix</i> spp, cell wall structure and organization, the genome sequencing and, genetic tools under development.</p> <p>As perspectives, the community voted for the next meeting to be hosted by Universidad de Guanajuato, Guanajuato, Mexico, in 2016</p> <p>Also, the WG website was set up at www.sporothrix.org and will be improved, step by step.</p>
5	<p>Is your Working Group going to continue for the next three years?</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The Working Group Coordination have already sent a proposal to the President of the next ISHAM Meeting (19th ISHAM Congress, Australia) to organize a WG Symposium on <i>Sporothrix</i> spp, similarly to that held in the 18th ISHAM Congress in Berlin, 2012. We are looking forward to the approval of this proposal by the 19th ISHAM Organization (2015).</p> <p>For 2014, the WG Coordination are organizing a special number of Medical Mycology dedicated to the publication of the advances in the field discussed in the 1st International Meeting on <i>Sporothrix</i> and Sporotrichosis.</p> <p>Finally, as mentioned above, the Working Group Coordination will be organizing the 2nd Meeting on <i>Sporothrix</i> and Sporotrichosis in 2016. Dr Hector Mora Montes will be the next meeting president.</p>