

Short report of the **ECMM/ISHAM Working Group on *Pseudallescheria* / *Scedosporium* Infections** in Bonn, Germany, 6-8 May, 2010.

The meeting was successful with 35 participants from 13 countries presenting environmental occurrence and applications, new diagnostic methods as well as clinical papers. Part of the program was shared with the German Paul–Ehrlich-Society (PEG), which helped to promote the attention for the *Scedosporium*-related diseases, which still have an orphan status. Sponsoring from the PEG, the German Muscoviscidose Society, the German Research Foundation (DFG), ISHAM, ECMM and the European Cystic Fibrosis Society (ECFS) was gratefully acknowledged.

***Website and Database.***

Among the major achievements of the Working Group is the extended database, which has been updated according to the latest taxonomic standards and is linked to a set of reference strains which is freely available to members of the Group. In addition, a literature database based on pdf-files has been made available through the ISHAM website and being very complete until 2006. Members are requested to donate subsequent articles to Michaela Lackner, [ela.youngisham@googlemail.com](mailto:ela.youngisham@googlemail.com).

***Diagnostic methods.***

Several molecular diagnostic methods were developed which enable rapid distinction of sibling species, both environmental and clinical. Studies on fungal isolation of fungi from the respiratory tract of cystic fibrosis (CF) patients were presented, concluding that *Pseudallescheria* / *Scedosporium* species are the second most hyphomycetes in these CF specimens, judging from data on a newly developed selective medium. For worldwide calibration of epidemiological data of these fungi, a MLST system will soon become available.

***Further activities of the Working Group.***

- During the meeting several new cooperations between members from all over the world were initiated various themes around these fungi.
- Some of the techniques are sufficiently advanced to be transformed to clinical guidelines and recommendations, particularly concerning isolation and identification of clinical and CF-related samples. Teams will be invited for implementation. A major effort on antifungal treatment is still needed.
- As a direct outcome of the meeting, a special issue of the journal ‘*Mycoses*’ is planned for 2011 with about 10 papers based on the presentations in Bonn.
- First genomes are expected to be sequenced soon, starting with *Scedosporium aurantiacum* in Australia.
- Next meetings are scheduled in Valencia 2011 (a session at TIMM), Berlin 2012 (a session at ISHAM). A full meeting is planned in 2013.

The workshop ended with a very original tour and a very nice party in the hills around Bonn. The local organization committee thanks all participants and sponsors for their help to had this very pleasant and productive meeting.

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