



Review article

Infections caused by *Candida* spp. in patients with COVID-19: A literature review

M. Silva Fiorio, C. G. dos Santos do Nascimento, P. Abreu Pereira, B. Cervinski Junges, S. Krolow, V. Marcon Giudice, F. Costa Charles, L. Cervieri Mezzomo, S. M. Spalding, L. Noal Calil, A. Mezzari*

Departament of Analysis, Faculty of Pharmacy, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil.

*Corresponding Author : A. Mezzari, University of Rio Grande do Sul, Pharmacy College (UFRGS), Ipiranga Avenue 2752 - Azenha, ZIP Code: 90610-000, Porto Alegre, RS, Brazil.

Email id: mezzari@ufrgs.br

Copyright © 2022 : A. Mezzari *et al.* This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution Non Commercial-Share Alike 4.0 International License which allows others to remix, tweak, and build upon the work non-commercially, as long as the author is credited and the new creations are licensed under the identical terms.

Keywords: *Candida* spp., Candidiasis, COVID-19, Sars-CoV-2.

Vol. 9 (1): 07-16, Jan-Mar, 2022.

Abstract

Objectives: This review aimed to evaluate the frequency of infections caused by yeasts of *Candida* spp. in patients affected with COVID-19. **Materials and methods:** A literature review was carried out in the Pubmed, Medline and Scielo databases, using the following keywords: "*Candida* spp." AND "COVID 19" AND "Candidiasis" AND "Candida". The selected studies present data about the types of infection, fungal isolates and the treatment employed. **Results:** There is an increase in mortality rates in individuals co-infected with COVID-19 and *Candida* spp., especially in those with associated risk factors. The most frequent species were *Candida albicans*, *C. glabrata*, *C. tropicalis* and *C. auris*. Furthermore, candidemia and oropharyngeal candidiasis were the clinical forms mentioned in association with COVID-19. Management is also dependent on the clinical form and the classes of antifungal agents recommended and/or tested in these studies are azoles, echinocandins and polyenes. **Conclusion:** Co-infection by *Candida* spp. and COVID-19 leads to a worrying scenario in which the number of cases has increased around the world, causing higher mortality rates in these patients. This increase was evident throughout the study, as well as emphasizing the importance of correct identification and management of these infections.