



Unusual Aspergillus species in patients with cystic fibrosis

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Titre Unusual Aspergillus species in patients with cystic fibrosis

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Poorly sporulating Aspergillus isolates from patients with cystic fibrosis (CF) are generally identified in routine procedures as *Aspergillus* spp. In this study, we identified and characterized 11 isolates belonging to two unusual *Aspergillus* species of the section Fumigati (*A. lentulus* and *Neosartorya pseudofischeri*) recovered from four different patients. *Aspergillus lentulus* was found occasionally during a 10-year follow-up study of one CF patient colonized by *A. fumigatus*. *Neosartorya pseudofischeri* was isolated from three patients followed in different European hospitals. This species was recovered from two sputum samples of one patient, and from four successive samples of the two other patients, suggesting that it may be responsible for chronic colonization. Both species were isolated together with *A. fumigatus*. Isolates from both species did not grow at 50°C, and DNA sequence analysis, together with further morphological observations permitted identification at the species level. Growth at different temperatures and antifungal susceptibility were also investigated. All the isolates of *N. pseudofischeri* exhibited a very low susceptibility to voriconazole (VRZ) whereas a very low susceptibility to VRZ and amphotericin B was seen with the *A. lentulus* isolates.

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