LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Reply to “Non-albicans Candida related candidemia among patients with chronic hemodialysis in the intensive care unit: True incidence or cluster infections?”

Dear Editor,

We appreciate Dr Pan’s interest in our article on risk factors for candidemia with non-albicans Candida spp. among patients with end-stage renal disease in the intensive care unit. Dr Pan suggested that cluster infection should be ruled out by genetic identification.

Although genotyping was not performed in our study, and of course cluster infection cannot be ruled out, no infectious outbreaks caused by Candida spp. were reported during the study period (conducted for more than 3 years in two centers). These factors decreased the possibility of the cluster infection effect. In addition, the primary purpose of the original study, which was to describe factors associated with bloodstream infections with non-albicans Candida species compared with bloodstream infections caused by Candida albicans, was not affected very much when the cluster effect was present. Therefore, Dr Pan’s argument is not valid.

References


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