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An Observation of Altered Morphology of *Candida albicans* in vivo

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Introduction

Candida albicans is a yeast that is commonly recovered in clinical microbiology laboratories. The organism is part of the normal flora of the gastrointestinal tract and a potential pathogen that can cause superficial as well as serious invasive infections [1,2]. We describe a laboratory observation of an odd-appearing *C. albicans* seen on direct Gram-stained smear from an intraabdominal abscess specimen. We observed gram-positive yeast cells with thick walls and broad-based buds. This report highlights an important concern for clinical microbiology laboratories, because altered organism morphology can lead to confusion and misidentifications.

Case Report

We observed the unusual appearance of a yeastlike organism in a Gram-stained smear from an intraabdominal abscess aspirate collected from a liver transplant patient who was receiving micafungin therapy. The yeast cells appeared round to oval, with large cells measuring 8 to 10 μm on average and a few measuring up to

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