

# Fungal infections in the returning immunosuppressed traveler from the tropics: lessons from three cases

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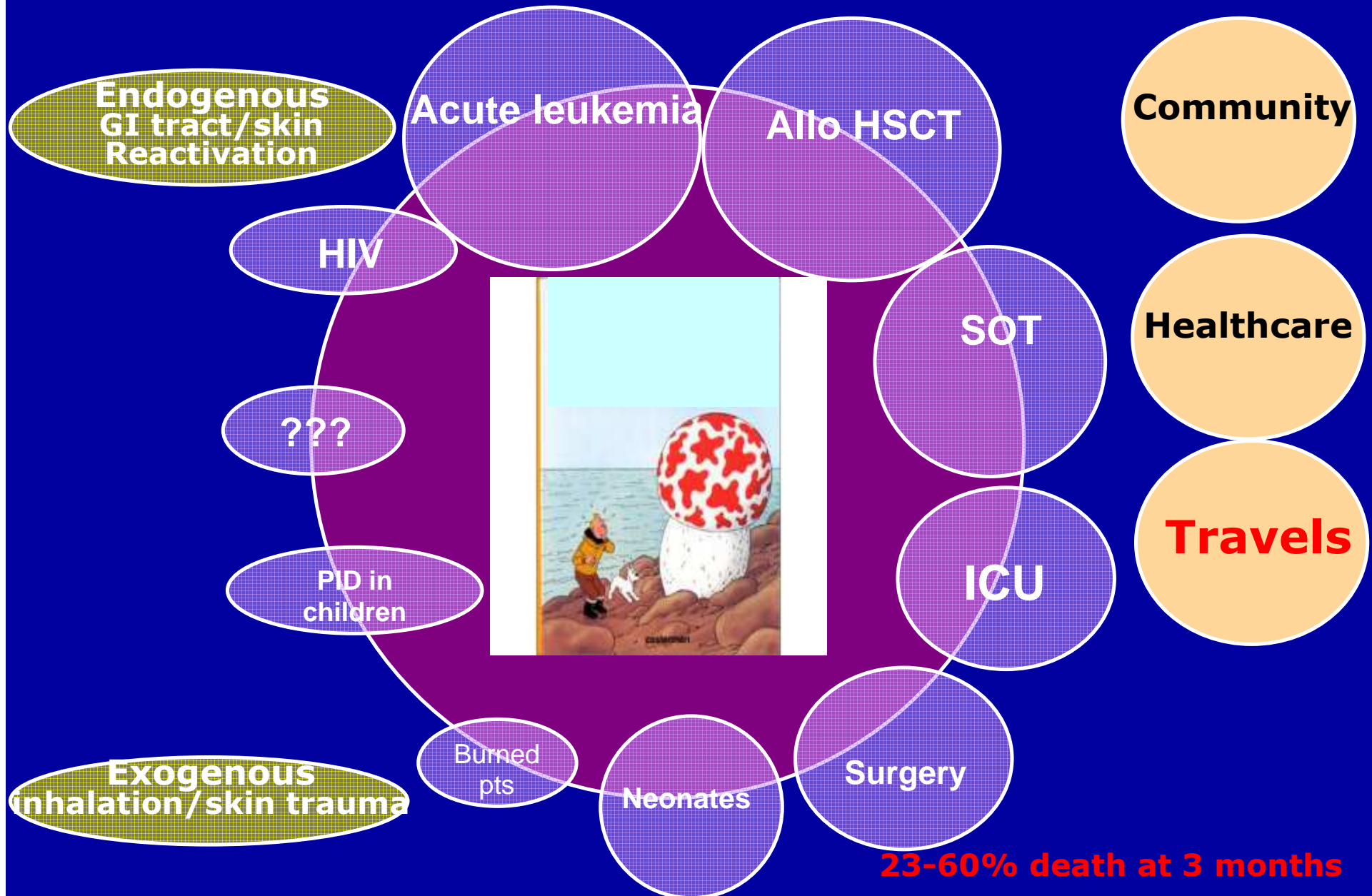
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IHU Imagine, Paris, France

**Oslo May 21st, 2014**

# Risk factors for IFI



# Tropical mycoses : background (1)

- Not present in Europe (except histoplasmosis in Northern Italy) ...  
may change in the future!
- Found in tropical areas ; « exotic or endemic mycoses »
- Contamination may occur after **inhalation**
  - Acute (primary) infection = pulmonary
- Contamination after **inoculation** (skin effraction / vegetal)
  - Cutaneous/subcutaneous mycoses

# Tropical mycoses : background (2)

- No interhuman transmission (except solid organ transplantation)
- Occurring in healthy travellers, expatriates, migrants
- Frequency and severity increased during cellular immune deficiencies (AIDS  $< 100$  CD4/mm<sup>3</sup>, SOT, anti-TNF- $\alpha$ ,...)

# Imported Mycoses in Europe

- Dimorphic fungi +++
  - *Histoplasma capsulatum* var. *capsulatum*/*duboisii*
  - *Coccidioides immitis*/*posadasii*; *Blastomyces dermatitidis*
  - *Penicillium marneffeii*/*Paracoccidioides brasiliensis*
  - *Sporothrix schenckii*
- Cryptococcosis : *C. gattii* (serotypes B/C)
- Phaeohyphomycoses (*C. bantiana*, *Rhinocladiella*)
- Entomophthoromycoses
  - Conidiobolosis
  - Basidiobolosis
- Chromomycosis
- Fungal mycetoma
- Rhinosporidiosis
- Lobo's disease
- Anthropophilic dermatophytes

# South-East Asian HIV-infected patient(s) in Paris



**What is your diagnosis ?**

# Infection due to...

- 1. *Cryptococcus neoformans*
- 2. *Aspergillus fumigatus*
- 3. *Histoplasma capsulatum* var. *capsulatum*
- 4. *Sporothrix schenckii*
- 5. *Penicillium marneffeii*

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- 5. *Penicillium marneffe*



## Infection due to *P. marneffe*...

- 1. becomes prevalent in South China & India
- 2. is limited to the skin
- 3. is correlated with the presence of birds
- 4. may be associated with positive galactomannan test
- 5. can be treated by fluconazole or an echinocandin

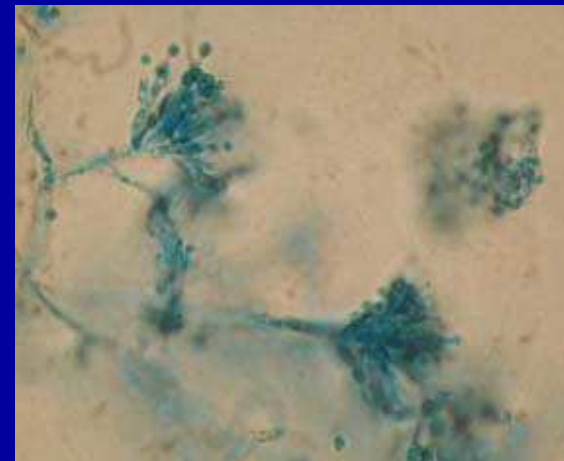
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# Infection due to *Penicillium marneffe*



- Southeast Asia, South China and Northeast and South India
- Bamboo rats (*Rhizomys/Cannomys*)
- Several imported cases in Europe (France, Italy and Greece)
  - Late stage AIDS
  - Skin lesions (71%)
  - Anemia (78%)/pancytopenia
  - Culture + :
    - blood 76%, skin 90%, bone marrow 100%
  - Aspergillus galactomannan +



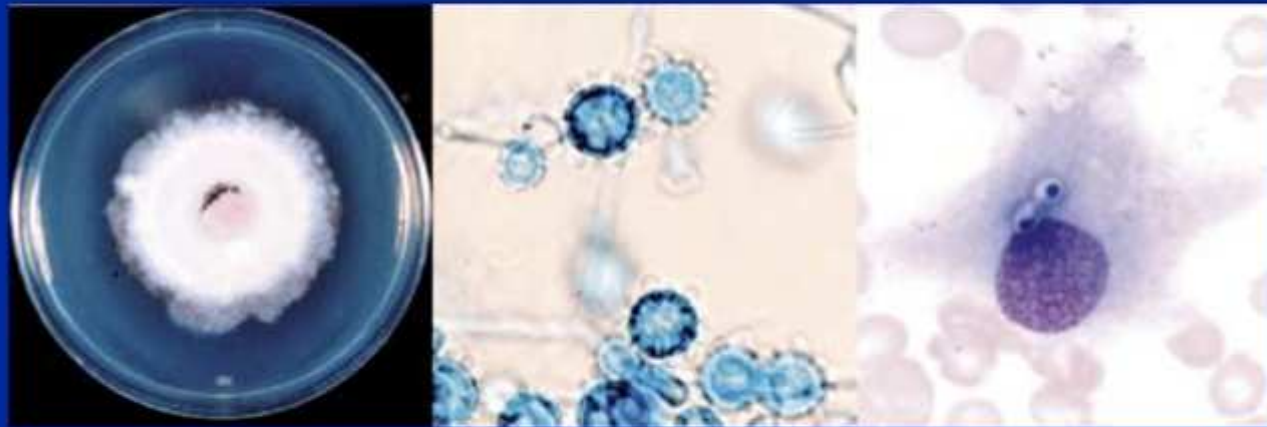
# Infection due to *Penicillium marneffe*: recent data in AIDS

- 27% increase during rainy months [Le CID 2011]
- Identical genotypes between humans and rats [Cao, EID 2011]
- 11.5% of mucocutaneous lesions in Chinese HIV+ pts (Guangxi) [Han, J Eur Acad Dermatol Venereol 2012]
  - Influence of HAART and CD4 cell count
- 16.5% of ALL positive BC in HCM city in 2005 [Nga TVT, Tr Roy Soc Trop Med 2012]
- Prognosis [Vietnam, 1996-2009, Le, CID 2011]
  - Injection drug use, shorter history, no fever/skin lesions, respiratory difficulty, higher lymphocyte and lower platelet counts
- Occurrence of IRIS [Sudjarituk, BMC Infect Dis 2012]

# Therapeutic proposal for *Penicillium marneffe* infection

- 20% deaths. No randomized trial for 1st line therapy
- Susceptible to Ket, Itra, FC, AmB and newer azoles but less to FCZ [Supparatpinyo AAC 1993, Imwidthaya Mycopathologia 2001, Pfaller AAC 2002]
- More clinical failure with FCZ (64%) compared to Amb/Itra ( $\leq 25\%$ ) [Supparatpinyo AAC 1993]
- Induction phase : AmB B 2 wks then Itra 400 mg/d 10 wks : effective in 97% [Sirisanthana CID 1998]
- Maintenance phase : Itra 200 mg/d : no relapse vs 57% in placebo [Supparatpinyo, NEJM 1998]
- Primary prophylaxis : Itra 200 mg/d if CD4 count  $<100$  cells/ $\mu$ L [Chariyalertsak, CID 2002]

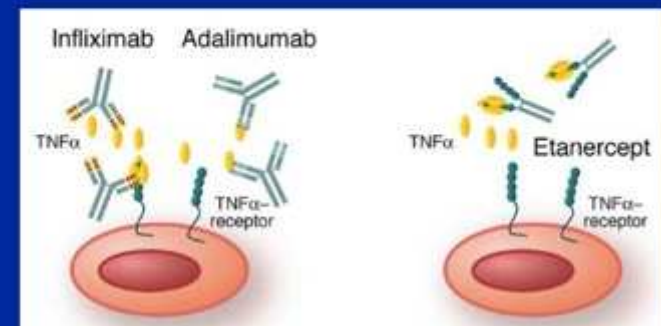
# An anti-TNF-treated woman who traveled to South America



A 58-yrs-old female with rheumatoid arthritis receiving oral prednisone and **adalimumab** who traveled to **Cuba** (2002) and **Brazil** (2003):

- developed mitral endocarditis with leg arterial embolism in 2005
- mitral valve direct examination (small yeasts) and culture : ???

- Valvular prosthesis + amphotericin B
- Death (2.5 mo, valve thrombosis)



# Infection due to...

- 1. *Trichosporon asahii*
- 2. *Candida kefyr*
- 3. *Histoplasma capsulatum* var. *capsulatum*
- 4. *Paracoccidioides brasiliensis*
- 5. *Coccidioides immitis*

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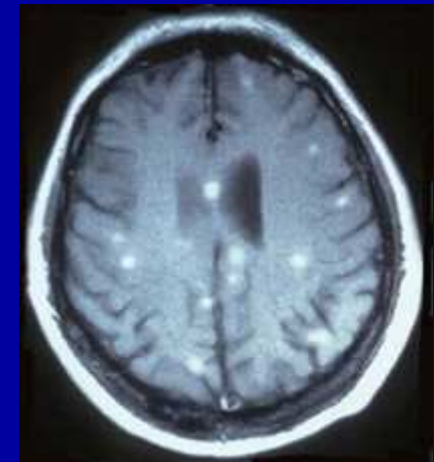
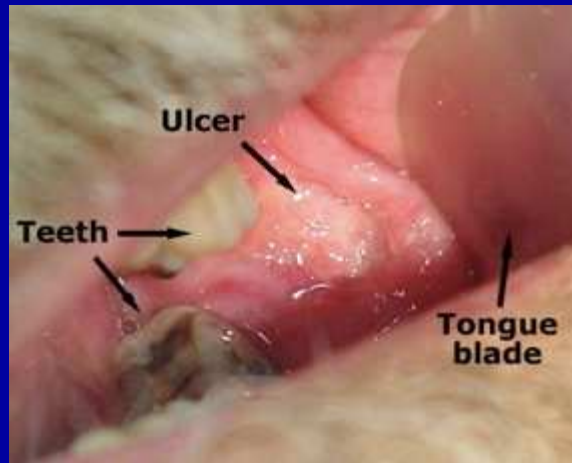
# **Infection due to *H. capsulatum* var. *capsulatum***

- 1. can be acquired during an hotel stay
- 2. acute infection is often asymptomatic
- 3. may reveal a latent immune deficiency
- 4. may be associated with positive galactomannan test in SOT patients
- 5. preferred Rx is L-Amb if disseminated

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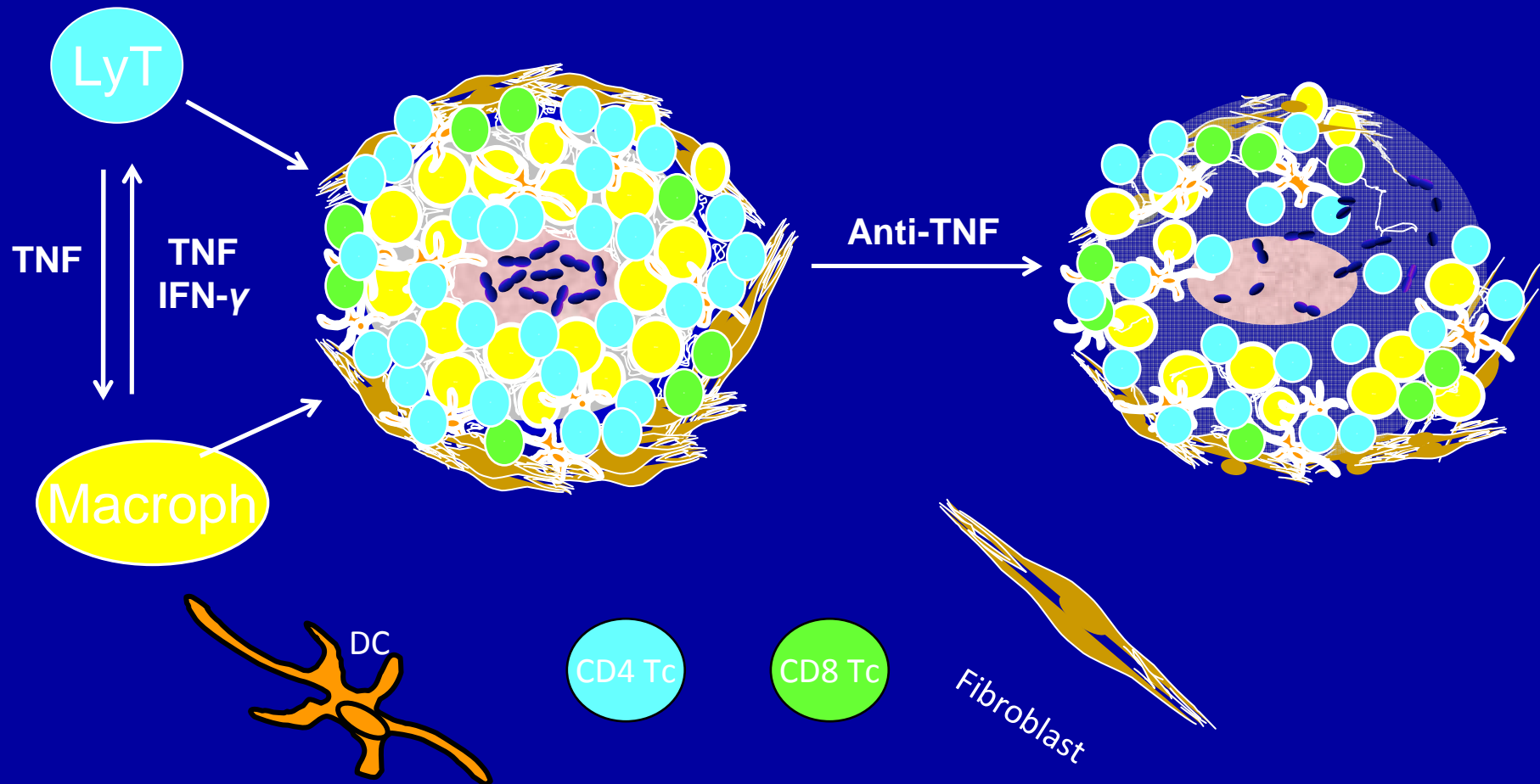
# Histoplasmosis in anti-TNF-treated patients



**Crohn  
Histoplasmosis  
?**



# Anti-TNF → granuloma suppression



# Anti TNF & *Histoplasma capsulatum*

10 cases; 9 infliximab  
1 wk-6 mo after initiation  
9 in ICU, 1 death  
Lee, Arthritis Rheum 2002



Increased number of cases in USA (240 cases reported to FDA)

3 x more frequent than TB in anti-TNF- $\alpha$  living in endemic areas

Most frequent IFI; mortality = 20%

Infliximab (x7) > Etanercept

Pneumonia/dissemination (70-80%)

Hage et al. CID 2010

IRIS = 42% cases in Indianapolis

Screening not useful (Ag/Ab)

Anti-TNF may be restarted if ATF  $\geq$  1 year without relapse

# How preventing histoplasmosis when starting an anti-TNF- $\alpha$ drug

Before starting TNF blocker, tell your doctor about

1. Possible exposure to *Histoplasma* via the following sites (activities):

Old buildings (demolition, remodeling, cleaning)

Chicken coops (demolition, cleaning, fertilizer)

Bird roosts (excavation, camping, cutting wood)

Wood piles (transporting or burning wood)

Caves (spelunking)

2. Recent travel to an area of endemicity<sup>1</sup>

3. Past diagnosis of histoplasmosis

4. Pneumonia in past 2 years

5. Any symptoms in past 3 months<sup>2</sup>

During TNF blocker therapy,

1. Avoid exposure to *Histoplasma*

2. Tell your doctor about possible exposure and recent travel<sup>1</sup>

3. Tell your doctor about any new symptoms

4. Don't put off contacting your doctor

# Clinical Practice Guidelines for the Management of Patients with Histoplasmosis: 2007 Update by the Infectious Diseases Society of America

L. Joseph Wheat,<sup>1</sup> Alison G. Freifeld,<sup>3</sup> Martin B. Kleiman,<sup>2</sup> John W. Baddley,<sup>4,5</sup> David S. McKinsey,<sup>6</sup> James E. Loyd,<sup>7</sup> and Carol A. Kauffman<sup>8</sup>

**Clinical Infectious Diseases 2007; 45:807–25**



# Indications of antifungal therapy during histoplasmosis

Definite indication, proven or probable efficacy

Acute diffuse pulmonary infection, moderately severe symptoms, or severe symptoms

Chronic cavitary pulmonary infection

Progressive disseminated infection

CNS infection

Uncertain indication, unknown efficacy

Acute focal pulmonary infection, asymptomatic case, or mild symptoms that persist for >1 month

Mediastinal lymphadenitis

Mediastinal granuloma

Inflammatory syndromes, treated with corticosteroids

Not recommended, unknown efficacy or ineffective

Mediastinal fibrosis

Pulmonary nodule

Broncholithiasis

Presumed ocular histoplasmosis syndrome



# Treatment of disseminated histoplasmosis in immunosuppressed pts

25. For moderately severe to severe disease, liposomal amphotericin B (3.0 mg/kg daily) is recommended for 1–2 weeks, followed by oral itraconazole (200 mg 3 times daily for 3 days and then 200 mg twice daily for a total of at least 12 months) (A-I).

26. Substitution of another lipid formulation at a dosage of 5.0 mg/kg daily may be preferred in some patients because of cost or tolerability (A-III).

27. The deoxycholate formulation of amphotericin B (0.7–1.0 mg/kg daily) is an alternative to a lipid formulation in patients who are at a low risk for nephrotoxicity (A-III).

28. For mild-to-moderate disease, itraconazole (200 mg 3 times daily for 3 days and then twice daily for at least 12 months) is recommended (A-II).

29. Lifelong suppressive therapy with itraconazole (200 mg daily) may be required in immunosuppressed patients if immunosuppression cannot be reversed (A-II) and in patients

## The donor might have traveled into an endemic area... [Martin-Davila Clin Microbiol Rev 2008]



- 50 yrs-old man, underwent a single-LTx for severe idiopathic fibrosis
- Acute rejection episodes treated with steroids
- Itraconazole administered for > 12 mo for suspected IA
- Uneventful until month 35 post-transplant where a graft dysfunction occurred : culture of bronchial aspirate grew : ???
- Acquisition of *C. immitis* attributed to a transmission from the donor graft :
  - (1) recipient never traveled outside France/donor travelled to Arizona
  - (2) his anti-*C. immitis* antibodies were positive at the time of death
  - (3) recipient anti-*C. immitis* antibodies negative pre-transplantation
  - (4) X administrations of itraconazole may explain delayed diagnosis

# Infection due to *C. immitis*

- 1. may be acquired in Oslo
- 2. may be acquired in Arizona
- 3. is a major public health issue in the USA
- 4. is associated with dissemination in black people and pregnant women
- 5. acute infection is often symptomatic

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# Infection due to *C. immitis*

- 1. can be reactivated with T Ly targeting biotherapies
- 2. its culture should be manipulated in P3 facility
- 3. is contagious from humans to humans
- 4. is susceptible to various triazoles
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# Posttransplantation coccidioidomycosis acquired from donor allograft

Type of Tx (ref)	Time of disease Presentation post-Tx	Serologic results	Diagnosis	Involved organs	Antifungal treatment	Outcome, Follow-up
Liver Tx (3)	Day 13	Donor positive (pre-Tx)	BAL and blood cultures  Autopsies of recipient and donor	disseminated	FCZ, AmB	Died (day 17)
Kidney Tx (3)*	Day 17	Donor positive (pre-Tx)	BAL and blood cultures  Autopsies of recipient and donor	disseminated	FCZ	Died (day 19)
Lung Tx (4)	Day 6	Recipient negative (pre-Tx)	Bronchial washings  Autopsy of donor	lung	FCZ	Alive, (12 months) Lifelong FCZ therapy
Lung Tx (5)	Day 21	NA	Autopsy of recipient	disseminated	none	Died (1 month)

# Therapeutic recommendation during SOT-associated coccidioidomycosis

Guidelines of the American Society of Transplantation, Infectious Diseases Community of Practice [Singh, AJT 2012]

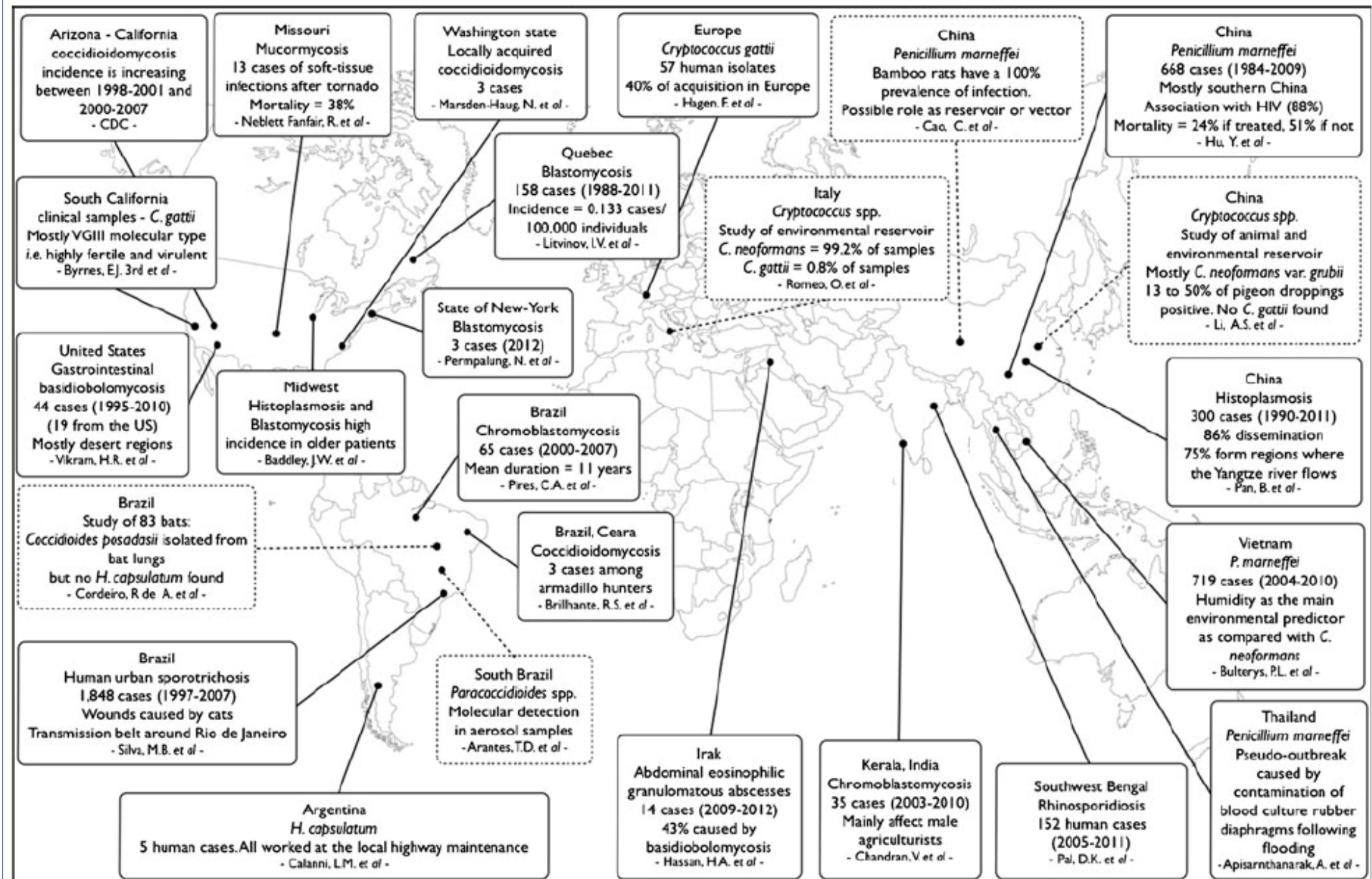
Medication	Indication	Dose	Duration
<b>Lipid formulations of amphotericin B</b>	Life-threatening or rapidly progressing infection	5 mg/kg/d	Until the rapid progression of infection is controlled, then transition to an azole alone
<b>Fluconazole</b>	Most non-life-threatening infections	400 – 800 mg/d	Full treatment dose until clinically resolved, then lifelong secondary prophylaxis 200-400 mg
<b>Fluconazole</b>	Meningitis (FCZ preferred)	400 – 800 mg/d (or higher)	Lifelong
<b>Itraconazole</b>	Most non-life-threatening infections	200 mg BID - TID	Indefinite duration; full treatment dose until completely resolved, then change to the lower dose or fluconazole as secondary lifelong prophylaxis
<b>Itraconazole</b>	Skeletal infections (Itra preferred)	200 mg BID – TID	Indefinite duration; full treatment dose until infection resolved, then continued secondary prophylaxis.



# IFI/immunosuppressed patients returning from the tropics

- Travel medicine:
  - Quickly moving = regular updating
  - Online information systems
- Fungal infections associated with travel
  - Rare ± severe = early recognition
  - Recently recognized endemic areas
  - Natural disasters included in the medical history

# Travel-associated fungal infections: 2012-2013! Richaud et al. 2013



# **IFI/immunosuppressed patients returning from the tropics**

Lortholary, CID 2013.

## **Before travel:**

- Specific medical visit before travel
- Parameters of immunodeficiency (CD4 cell count (HIV+ pts) /graft function / immunosuppressive drugs, dosage and duration)
- Some IFI may reactivate years after the return

## **After travel:**

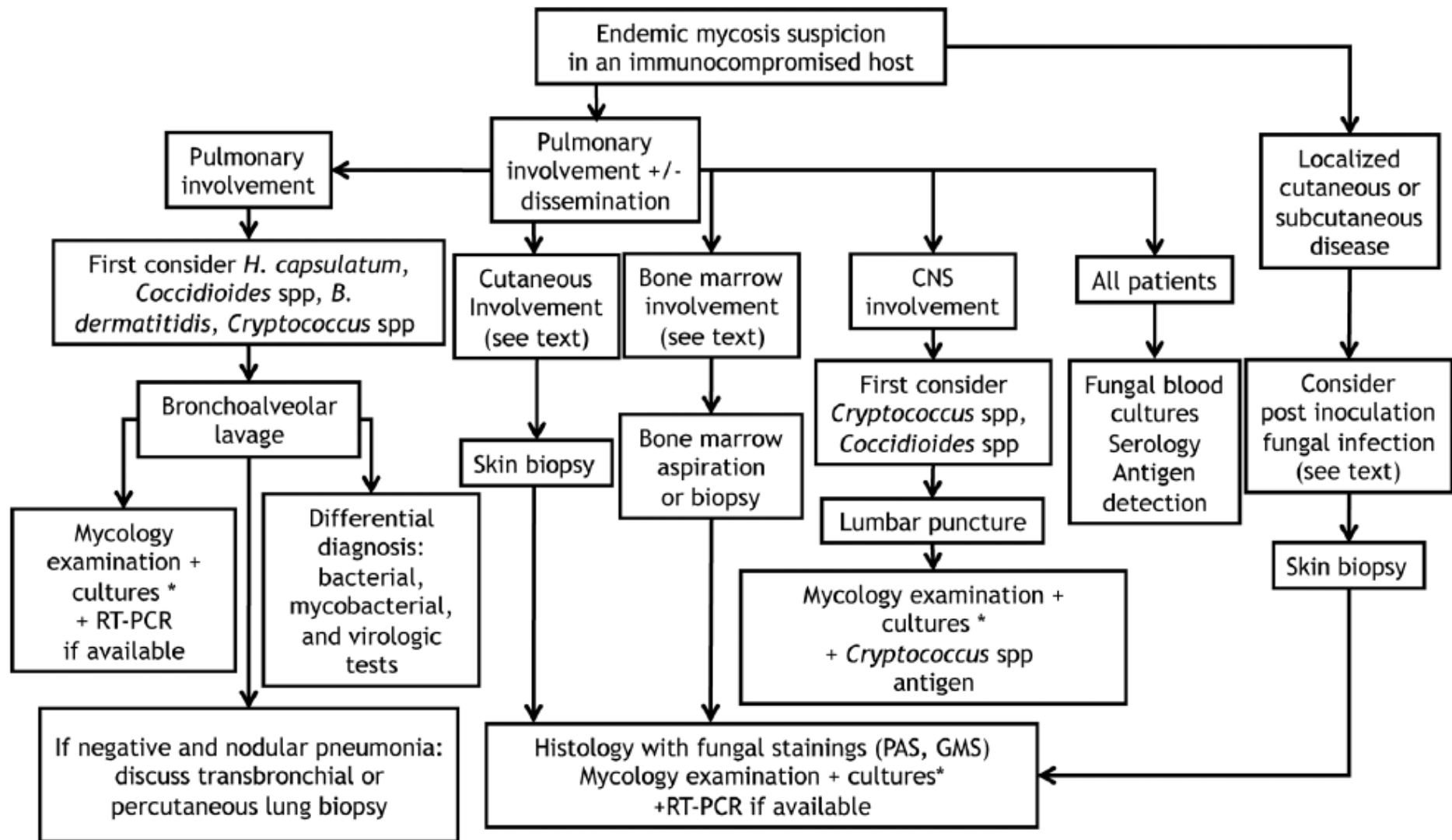
- Which precise geographical area ?
- Particular epidemiological event (earthquake, windy conditions, construction work, cave, trauma with vegetal) ?

# IFI/immunosuppressed patients returning from the tropics

- Pulmonary manifestations should suggest dimorphic fungi
- Papules should suggest IFI: cryptococcosis, but also histoplasmosis/penicilliosis



- Advanced age and diabetes mellitus should be considered as extra risk factors for IFI acquired in endemic areas



# IFI/immunosuppressed patients returning from the tropics

Lortholary, CID 2013

- In SOT, the donor may have traveled or lived in an endemic area [2012 AST guidelines]
- Endemic areas are moving (*P. marneffeii* and *R. mackenziei* in India/Afghanistan)... and even Europe!
- Suspicion of IFI in an immunosuppressed traveler often requires a reference mycology laboratory (P3)

# Further readings...?

INVITED ARTICLE

IMMUNOCOMPROMISED HOSTS

David R. Snyderman, Section Editor

## Fungal Infections in Immunocompromised Travelers

Olivier Lortholary,<sup>1,2,3</sup> Caroline Charlier,<sup>1</sup> David Lebeaux,<sup>1</sup> Marc Lecuit,<sup>1,4,5</sup> and Paul Henri Consigny<sup>6</sup>

**Clinical Infectious Diseases** 2013;56(6):861–9

### *Fungal Infections Associated with Travel*

**Clémence Richaud, David Lebeaux & Olivier Lortholary**

Current Fungal Infection Reports

ISSN 1936-3761

Curr Fungal Infect Rep  
DOI 10.1007/s12281-013-0151-0



TAKK !