



Réunion AIH
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Zygomycoses: biologie, épidémiologie et diagnostic microbiologique

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Zygomycetes

■ Definition

| Division | Class | Order |
|---------------|-------------|------------------|
| Ascomycota | | |
| Basidiomycota | | |
| Zygomycota | Zygomycetes | Mucorales |
| | | Mortierellales |
| | | Entomophthorales |

(de Hoog, Guarro, et. al Atlas of Clinical fungi)



- Cosmopolites - Environnement
- De l'Antarctique¹ aux sources géothermale²
- Quelques espèces restreintes aux régions tropicales / subtropicales :
Apophysomyces and *Saksenaea*



1. Lawley B., et al. 2004. *Appl. Environ. Microbiol.* **70**: 5963.

2. Redman RS., et al. 1999. *Appl. Environ. Microbiol.* **65**: 5193.

Écologie, espèces pathogènes

✓ Groupe de champignons filamenteux caractérisés par mycélium non cloisonné (coenocytique)

- Saprophytes

- sol
- matières en décomposition
- fruits
- compost
- graines de céréales



- Sporulation ++, spores aéroportées

→ Fréquemment isolés comme contaminant



Espèces pathogènes : ca. 20 espèces / 10 genres

| Order | Family | Genus | Species |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Mucorales | Mucoraceae | <i>Rhizopus</i> | <i>R. oryzae</i> |
| | | | <i>R. microsporus</i> |
| | | | <i>R. azygosporus</i> |
| | | | <i>R. schipperae</i> |
| | <i>Mucor</i> | <i>M. circinelloides</i> | |
| | | | <i>M. hiemalis</i> |
| | | | <i>M. racemosus</i> |
| | | | <i>M. ramosissimus</i> |
| | | | <i>M. indicus</i> |
| | Mycocladiaceae ¹ | <i>Rhizomucor</i> | <i>R. pusillus</i> |
| <i>Mycocladius (Absidia)</i> | | | <i>M. corymbifer</i> |

1. Hoffmann, K., et al. 2007. Mycol Res 111:1169-1183.

| Order | Family | Genus | Species |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Mucorales | Cunninghamellaceae | <i>Cunninghamella</i> | <i>C. bertholletiae</i> |
| | Saksenaeaceae | <i>Saksenaea</i> | <i>S. vasiformis</i> |
| | Syncephalastraceae | <i>Syncephalastrum</i> | <i>S. racemosum</i> |
| | Thamniaceae | <i>Cokeromyces</i> | <i>C. recurvatus</i> |
| Mortierellales | | | |
| Entomophthorales | | | |

■ Problèmes actuels

- Biologie / Facteurs de virulence

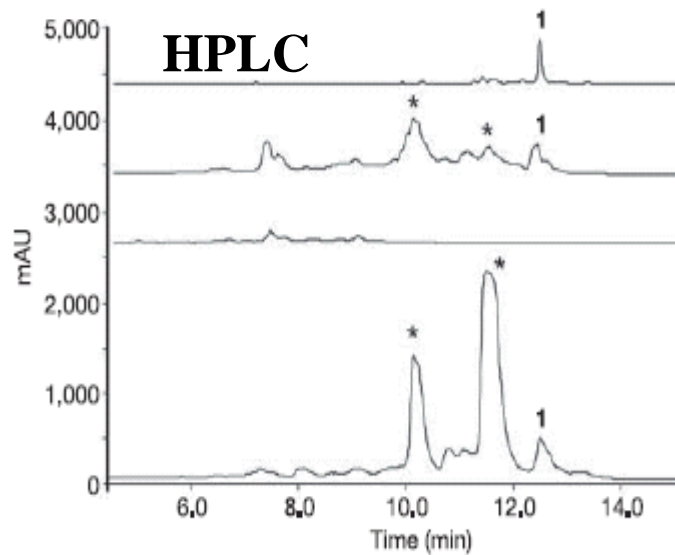
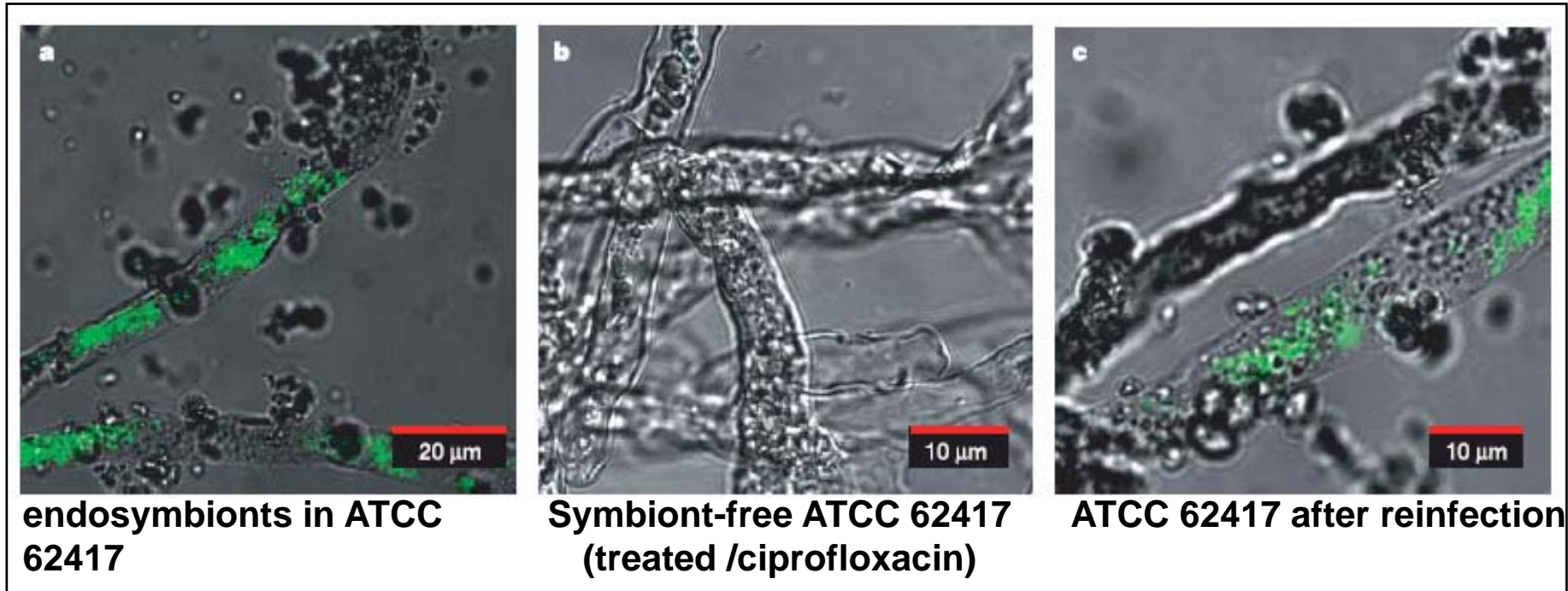
- Epidémiologie

- Diagnostic microbiologique:

- Identification des espèces en culture

- Identification des espèces à partir des tissus (cultures négatives)

Endosymbiont bacteria in *Rhizopus microsporus*



Rhizoxin reference (12.5 mg.l⁻¹)

ATCC 62417

Symbiont-free ATCC 62417 (treated /ciprofloxacin)

Burkholderia sp. isolated from ATCC 62417

Endosymbiont bacteria in *Rhizopus microsporus*

- **Hypothesis:** endosymbiotic toxin-producing bacteria may significantly enhance the virulence of *Rhizopus* species and explain their predominant role as human pathogens over other Zygomycetes species¹

- Bacterial endosymbiosis detected² or not³ in clinical isolates
 - No difference in virulence between bacteria-free zygomycetes and their parent strains²

1. Chamilos G. et al. 2007, Fungal Genet Biol, **44**, 88

2. Ibrahim AS. et al. 2008 JID **198**:1083

3. Partida-Martinez L. et al. 2008, Mycoses, **51**:266

- ✓ Pathogène chez l'immunodéprimé
- ✓ Facteurs favorisants
 - Diabète (acidocétose)
 - Neutropénie, corticothérapie
 - Trauma, brûlures
 - Dénutrition, toxicomanie IV
 - Deferoxamine
- ✓ Formes cliniques
 - Rhinocérébrales
 - Pulmonaires
 - Cutanées
 - Gastro-intestinales
 - Disséminées

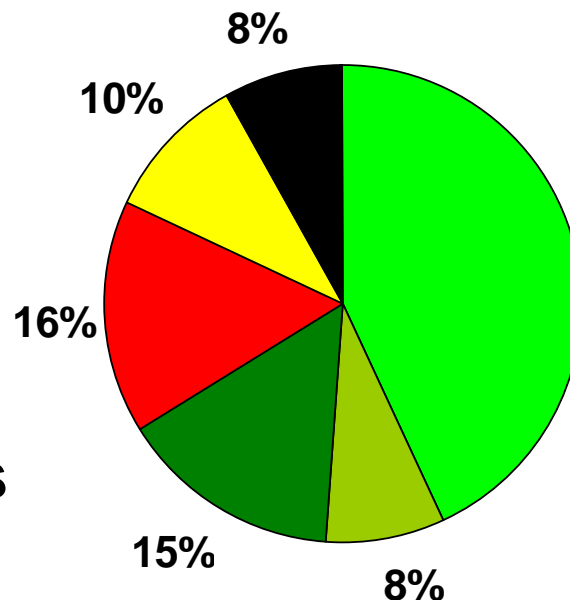
Clinical forms

- Rhino-cerebral
- Pulmonary
- Cutaneous
- Gastro-intestinal
- Disseminated

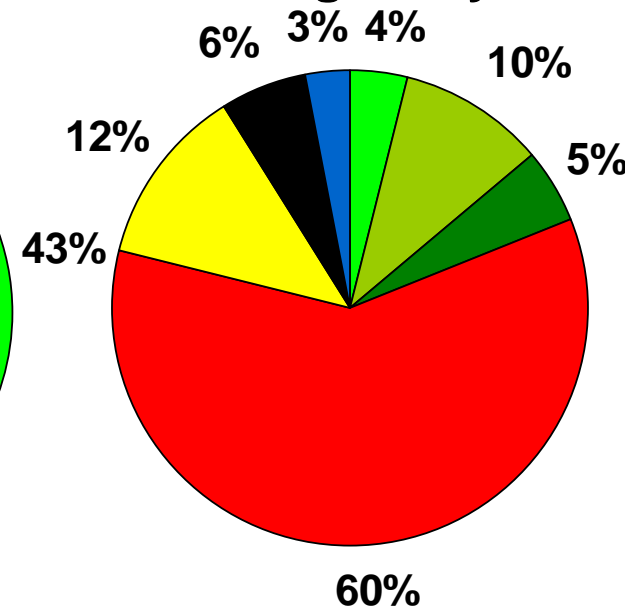
Predisposing factors

- Diabetes
- Malignancy
- BMT - SOT
- Deferoxamine
- IVDU
- No underlying condition

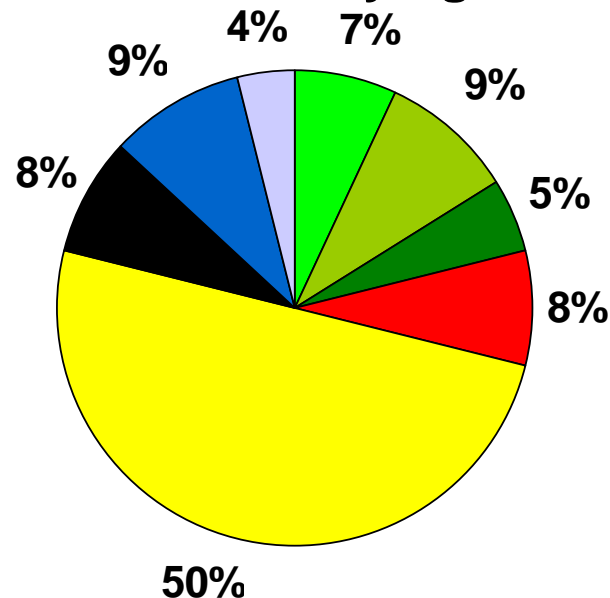
Diabetes



Malignancy



No underlying



- Rhinocerebral
- Sinus
- Sino-orbital
- Pulmonary
- Cutaneous
- Other
- GI
- Cerebral

Zygomycètes

■ Pathologies rares

- 929 cas dans la littérature de 1940 à 2003¹
- Incidence des zygomycoses mal connues
 - 1.7 cas / million / an²
- TRANSNET: zygomycoses représentent
 - 2% des IFI / SOT³
 - 8% des IFI / HSCT⁴

1. Roden MM. et al. 2005. CID 41:634.

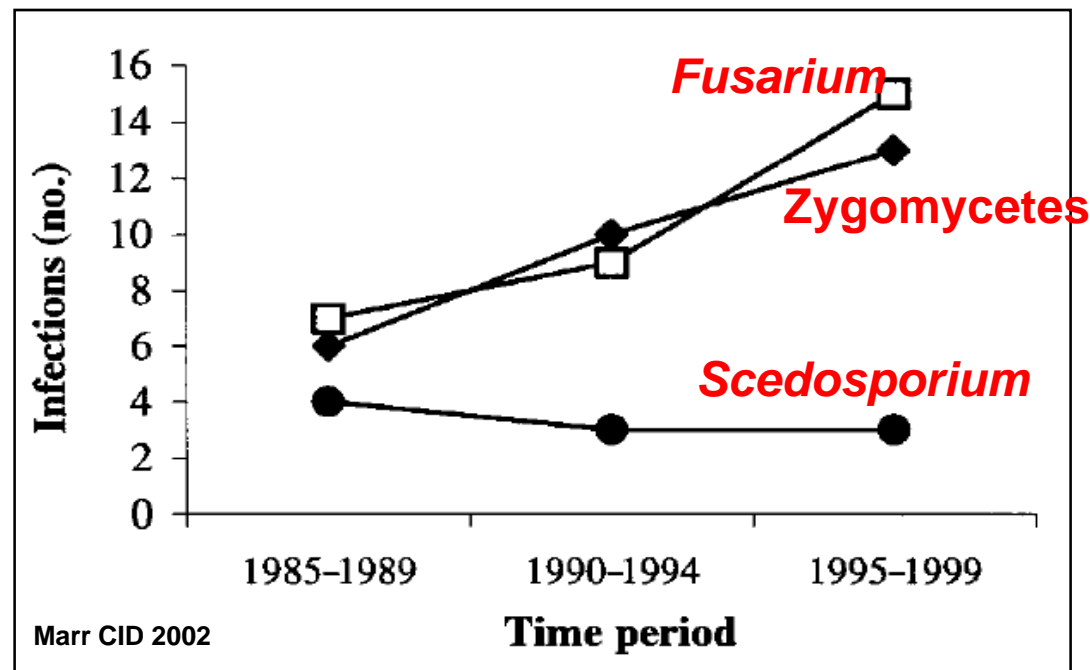
2. Rees JR. et al. 1998. CID 27:1138.

3. Pappas PG. et al. 2007. ICAAC M-1195

4. Kontoyannis DP. et al. 2007. ICAAC M-1196

■ Pathologies émergentes

- En particulier chez patients d'hématologie¹
- Infections chez patients sous voriconazole²⁻⁴



1. Marr KA. et al. 2002. CID 34:909.

2. Vigouroux CID 2005, 40, e35.

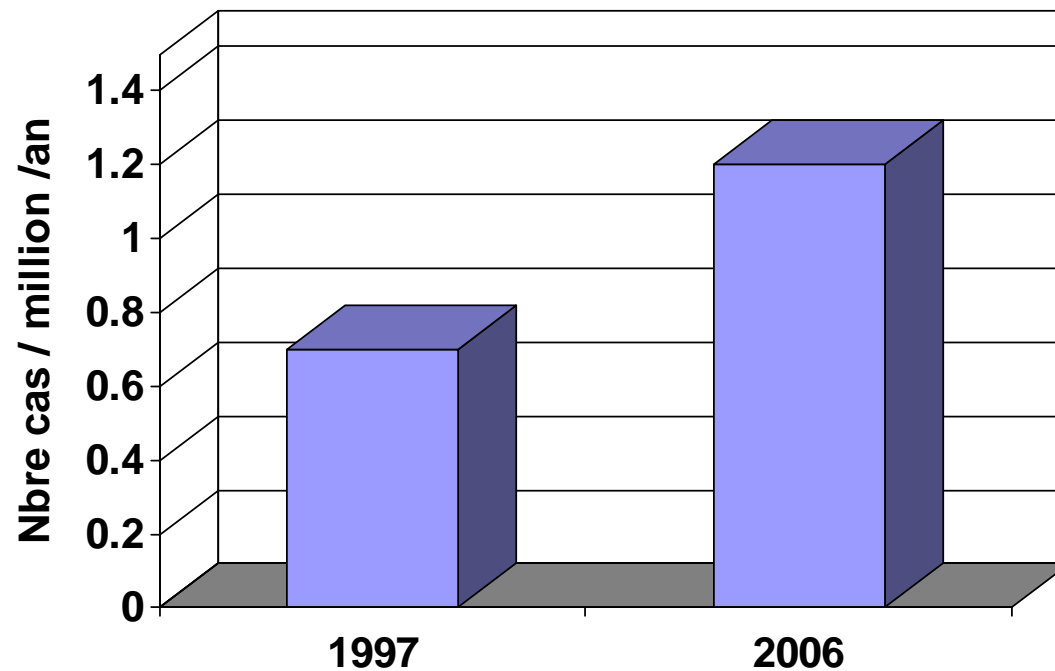
3. Kontoyiannis DP. et al. JID 2005, 191, 1350

4. Trifilio SM. et al. 2007. BMT 39:425.

■ Pathologies émergentes

■ Etude InVS – Incidence des zygomycoses en France métropolitaine, 1997 - 2006

■ 547 cas, taux d'incidence moyen: 0.9 / million /an



Nationwide survey of rare mycoses in France

- Starting 2003
 - Epidemiology and microbiology
 - Web-based notification of cases (Voozanoo)

Ongoing study: **RETROZYGO**

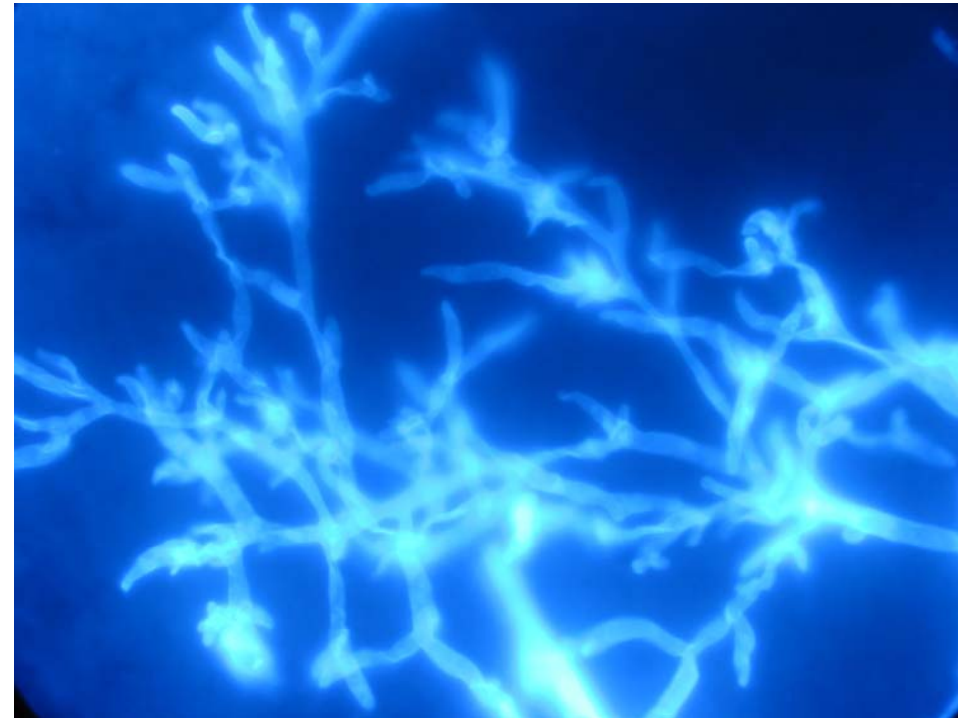
- Nationwide epidemiological retrospective study of zygomycosis (starting 2008)
 - Analysis of 3 years: 2005-2007
 - Analysis of all cases in France



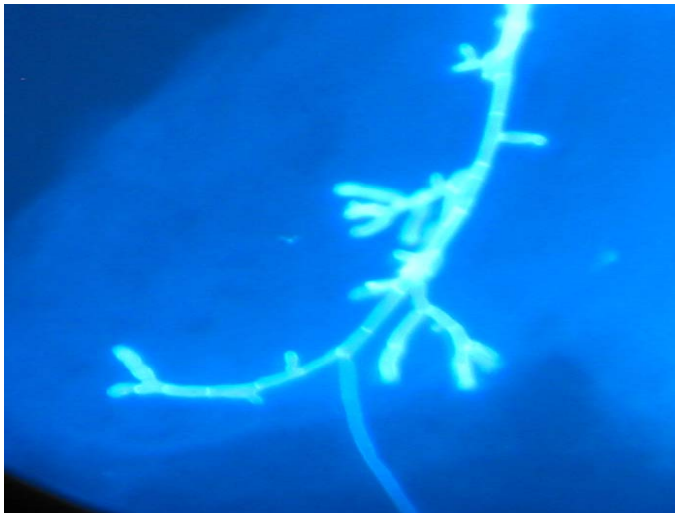
Le diagnostic mycologique

- ✓ Prélèvements : AB, LBA, biopsie..., en fonction de la localisation
- ✓ Examen direct : importance ++
- ✓ Mise en culture : attention aux faux positifs (contaminant)
 - Poussent sur nbreux milieux, mais cultures souvent neg
 - Incubation 37°C, 30°C
 - Biopsies : pas d'homogénéisation +++, détruit le mycélium
- ✓ Anatomopathologie
 - diagnostic de certitude
 - pas de diagnostic d'espèce
- ✓ Pas de sérologie, pas de détection d'antigène, pas de PCR

Zygomycètes : mycélium large, rubané, non septé, de diamètre irrégulier. Branchements à angles droits



Aspergillus : mycélium fin, septé, de diamètre régulier. Branchements à angles aigus.

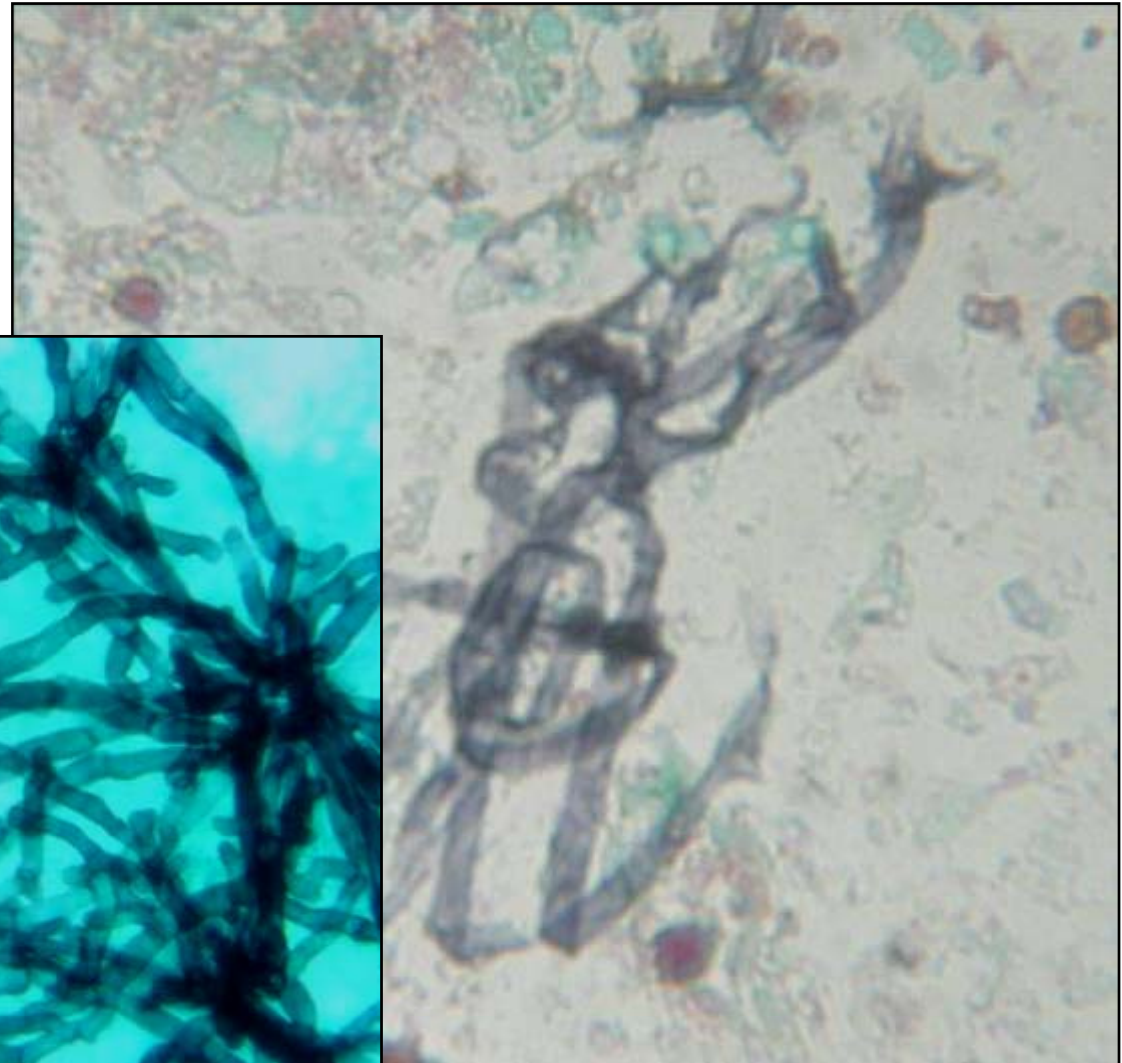
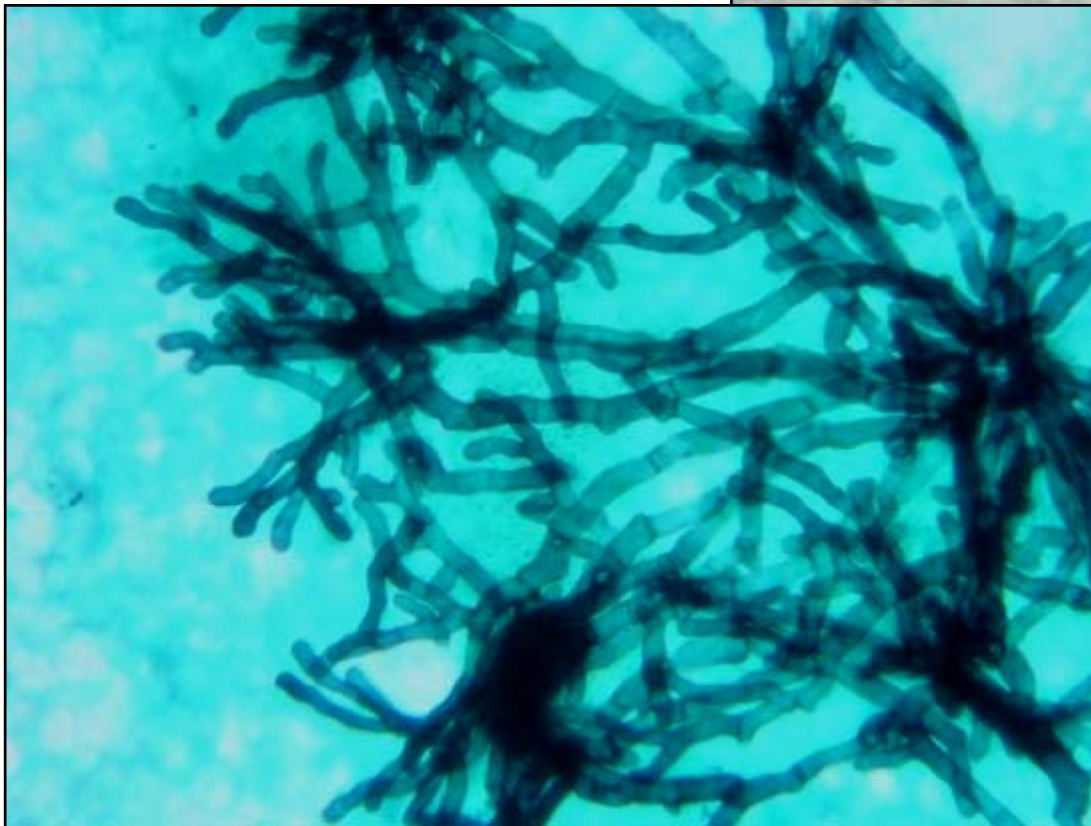


Candida : pseudo-mycélium fin, avec blastospores, de diamètre régulier. Branchement à angles aigus.



Morphologie générale des zygomycètes

- ED (différentiation avec *Aspergillus*)



Identification of Zygomycetes from culture

The classical way

- Phenotypic identification
- Mainly based on morphological characteristics
- Remains difficult and sometimes needs expertise of a reference laboratory

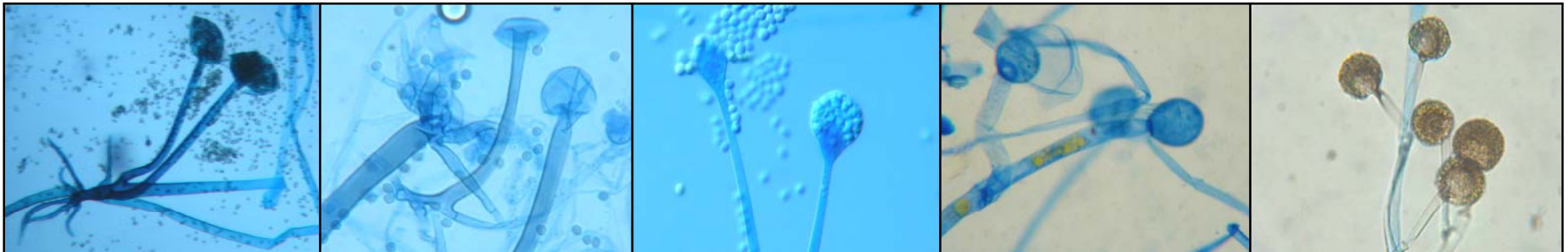
R. oryzae

R. microsporus

Mycocladius

Mucor

Rhizomucor



- Some species (*Apophys.*, *Saksenaea*) fail to sporulate on routine media
- Morphological-based identification erroneous in > 20% of the cases¹

➡ **New identification methods are needed**

Zygomycetes : molecular identification of species

- Reliable identification (DNA barcoding) needs¹
 - An informative DNA target
 - Working for all species in the group
 - Low intra-specific and high inter-specific variability
 - A validated sequence database for comparison (public, commercial)
 - MicroSeq D2 large-subunit DNA sequencing kit: misidentification of Zygo in ~50%²

1. Balajee A. et al. 2007. Med. Mycol **45**:475.

2. Hall L. et al, 2004. JCM **42**:622.

Current guidelines

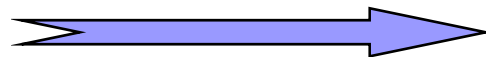
- The Clinical Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) proposed guidelines for fungal identification by DNA Target Sequencing

Microorganism or Group: *Zygomycetes*

| ITS Target | Comments for ITS Target | Alternative DNA Target |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Resolution to genus and usually to species | Good discrimination of genera; interspecies variation 0- 40%; intraspecies differences 0-2%. Five species of <i>Rhizopus</i> can be distinguished. | D1/D2 region may provide resolution to species |

Diagnosis of zygomycosis in FRESH tissues

- Good sensitivity and specificity in experimental model¹
- PCR + sequencing (ITS1) in samples from patients with proven zygomycosis²
- Several case-reports³⁻⁶
 - Various infections
 - Various species
 - Various techniques and targets



Overall: good results

1. Schwarz P. et al. 2006. JCM **44**:340.

2. Lau A. et al. 2007. JCM **45**:380

3. Kobayashi M. et al. 2004. Respiriology **9**:397.

4. Larché J. et al. 2005. CID **41**:1362.

5. Machouart M. et al. 2006. JCM **44**:805.

6. Iwen PC. et al. 2005. JCM **43**:5819.

Molecular identification in tissues: a clinical case

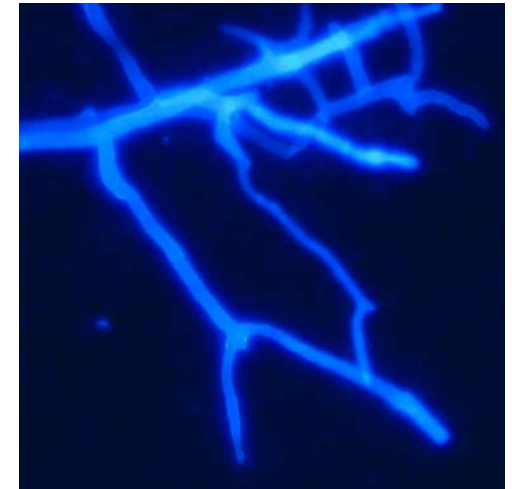
- healthy 14-year-old patient
- cutaneous zygomycosis
- scorpion sting

cutaneous biopsy

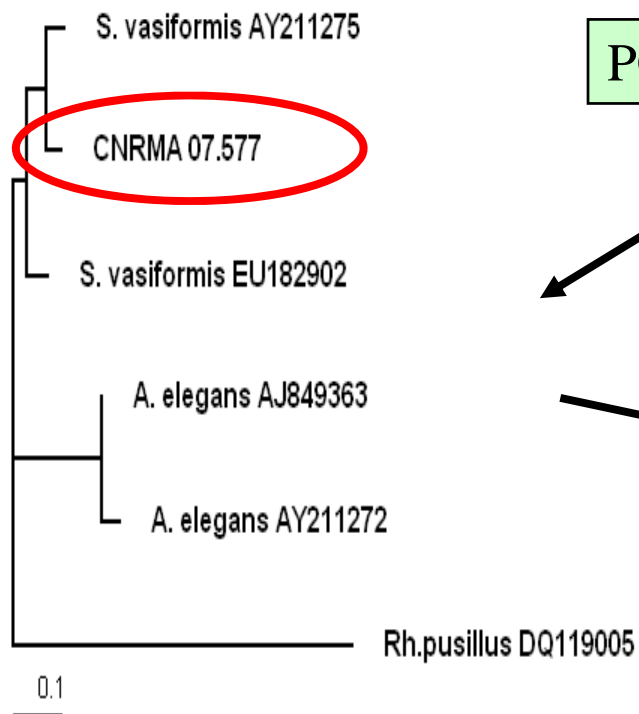
Non sporulating Zygomycete
Culture non-viable, lost

cutaneous biopsy (frozen)

PCR + sequencing ITS / 28S



Direct examination
of the tissue sample
(calcofluor)



Saksenaea vasiformis

Diagnosis of zygomycosis in PE tissues

- Different molecular approaches
 - Good specificity, in experimental model¹, sensitivity to be improved
 - Panfungal PCR² (ITS region): PCR+ in 5/9 samples (all histo+)
 - 18S-targeted semi-nested PCR specific for zygo
 - PCR+ in 14/23 samples³
 - PCR+ in 5/5 samples⁴
 - Prospectively evaluated⁵: PCR assay superior to culture in histo+ samples

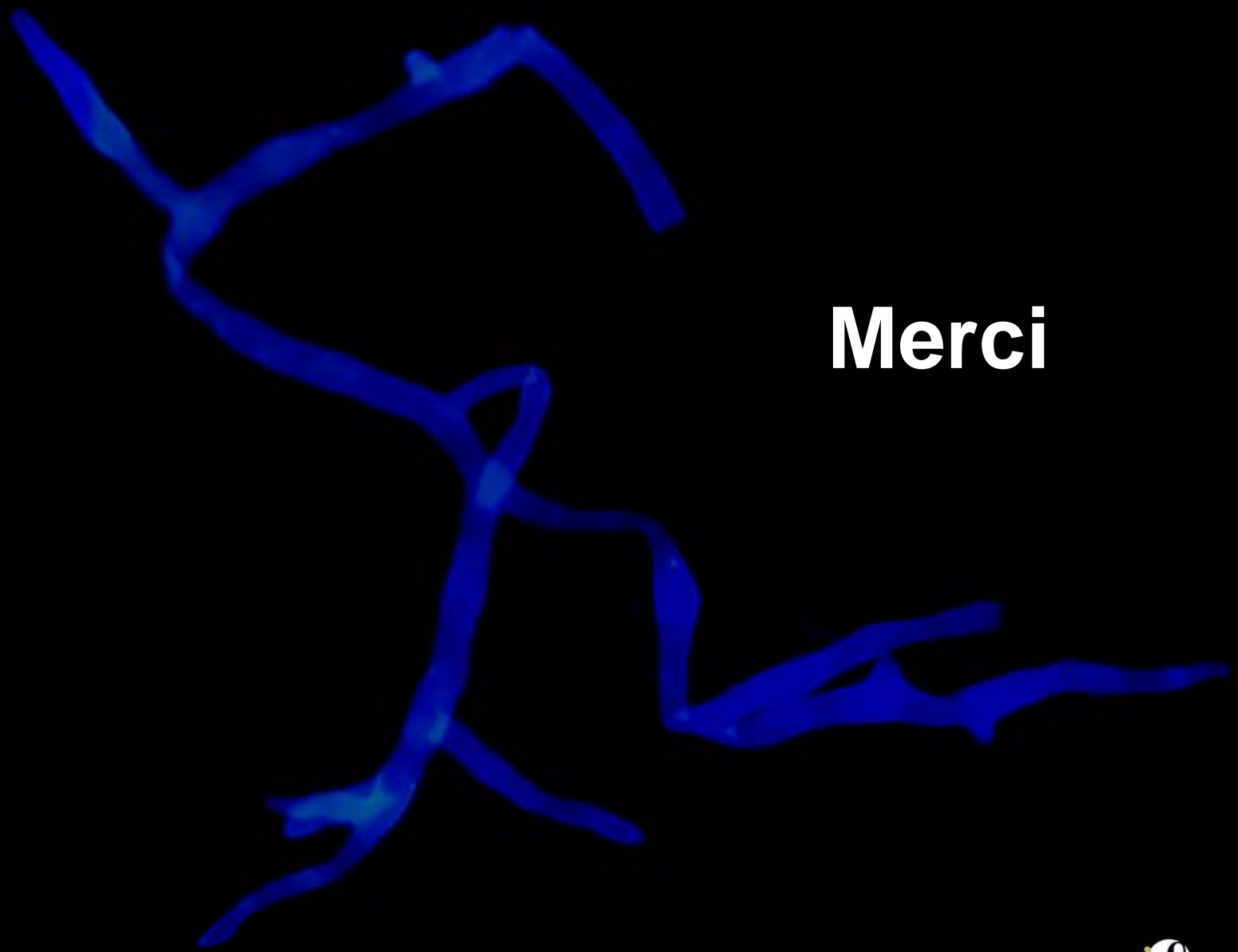
1. ESCMID Fungal Infection Study Group. 2007 ICAAC M-567

2. Lau A. et al. 2007. JCM 45:380.

3. Bialek et al. JCP 2005, 58, 1180.

4. Rickerts V. et al. 2006. EJCMID 25:8

5. Rickerts V. et al. 2007. CID 44:1078.



Merci



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