

Studies on clinical symptoms and antibiogram of vaginal candida isolates in Onitsha, Anambra state, Nigeria

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Aetiologic spectrum and antifungal susceptibility pattern in vulvovaginal candidiasis (VVC) was investigated among women of child bearing age who visited the General Hospital Onitsha with symptoms suggestive of VVC. High vaginal specimens from a total of 876 women were evaluated mycologically by standard methods, involving microscopic examination and culture using sabouraud dextrose agar (SDA) and Brilliance *Candida* agar. Susceptibility of cultural isolates to 4 antifungal agents was tested using agar dilution method. Of the 876 samples; yeasts were isolated in 484 (55.3%). *Candida albicans* was the most frequently isolated species (54.6%) followed by *Candida glabrata* (18.2%), *Candida krusei* (11.6%), *Candida tropicalis* (4.1%) and *Candida dubliniensis* (4.1%). The overall occurrence of non-albicans candida species was 45%. Among the subjective symptoms presented, vulval pruritus was the commonest (81%), followed by vaginal discharge (70%). Higher minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) to azole antifungals was recorded mostly on non-albicans increasingly involved in VVC; successful treatment of the infection requires an adequate knowledge of the local causative agents and the drugs to which they are susceptible.

Biography

Ejike Chinwe Ebele is a qualified Medical Laboratory Scientist, registered with the institute of Medical Laboratory Council of Nigeria. She has a Masters in Medical Microbiology, Nnamdi Azikiwe University Awka. She is currently doing her Ph.D. in the same University. She is a Lecturer in the Faculty of Clinical Medicine, Anambra State University Awka.

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