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Domestic animals as a source of human fungal infections

Mycoses are common on over the world and some human infections may originate from animals. In Poland, infection of *Trichophyton mentagrophytes* and *Microsporum canis* are the most common animal ringworms. Skin infection due to other mycelial fungi such as *Alternaria alternata*, especially in horses has become a new clinical problem. *Malassezia* infections are the most frequent superficial skin mycoses of dogs, but their role in atopic dermatitis (AD) and possibility of transmission for people is often apart from understated. The number of dermatitis in companion animal caused by *Candida* has lately increased significantly too. Different species of *Candida* are also frequently isolated from mastitis in dairy cows. Fungal infections in amphibians are now one of the most important reasons of extinction of these animals. The most dangerous are infections of *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* or *Saprolegnia ferax*. Amphibian mycoses are so common and spread so fast, and have now been proclaimed an ecological catastrophe, but in Poland are rather rare problem. Aspergilosis in birds and nasal cavity aspergilosis in dogs are often shown in our country. There are no well documented reports of histoplasmosis, sporotrichosis, blastomycosis and coccidioidomycosis among animals in Poland, but the etiological role of many fungal species is still misunderstood. Simultaneously, the risk of animal's mycoses as a source of infection for their owners is still not recognized to the end point.

Biography

Bozena Dworecka-Kaszak graduated from Veterinary Medicine Faculty of Warsaw University of Life Sciences in 1979. In 1982 she finished her PhD thesis: The effect of *Clostridium oncolyticum* s. butyricum M55 on hematopoiesis in healthy and irradiated mice" at National Institute of Hygiene in Warsaw. She did habilitation in 2002 on the topic: "Characteristics of yeast-like fungi *Malassezia pachydermatis* and evaluation of their immunomodulation properties in vivo and in vitro" and become Specialist in Veterinary Laboratory Diagnostics. Since 1985 till present she has been working at Veterinary Medicine Faculty of Warsaw University of Life Sciences at the Department of Precinical Sciences. In years 2000-2012 she was the Head of Mycology Division and she become University Professor in 2004. During her career, she completed many fellowships, such as at *FelInstitut fur Mikrobiologie und Tierseuchen der Tierarztlichen, Hochschule Hannover* (Germany) and at *Dipartimento di Sanita Pubblica Veterinaria e Patologia Animale, Universita Degli Studi di Bologna* (Italy) as well as a Tempus Phare at *Dipartimento de Medicina y Sanidad Animal, Patologia Infecciosa, Facultad de Veterinaria de Univesidad Extremadura in Caceres* (Spain) and Tempus Phare, Erasmus Teacher Mobility Grant in Valencia UPV (Spain). Her field of interest is Mycology, *Mallasezia* dog's infections and dermatophytes.

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