

# Echinocandins for Invasive Fungal Infections

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## Background:

During the last years, an increase in the incidence of Invasive Fungal Infections (IFI) has been observed, in parallel to a progressive shift of invasive species from *Candida albicans* to fungi resistant to previously effective treatments. The use of echinocandins in this context is spreading as an alternative to azoles.

## Porpouse:

To determine the distribution of invasive fungal species in the population of patients treated with echinocandins in our hospital and the outcomes in such context during a year.

## Materials and methods:

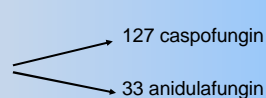
All patients treated with echinocandins during 2010 were evaluated. Data such as sex, age and length of hospital stay were taken from the electronic chart. Information regarding treatment with caspofungin and anidulafungin was taken from electronic prescription programs.

## Results:

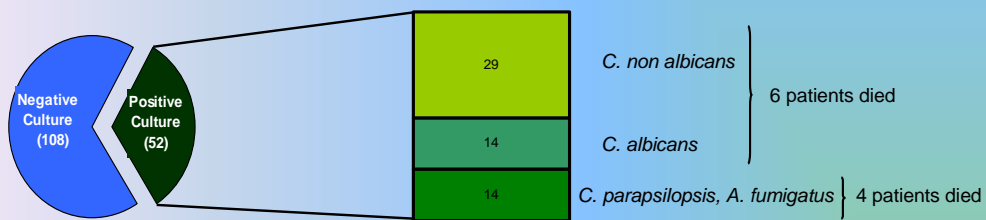
136 Patients (97♂, 39♀)

Median Age (years)	Median Duration of hospital stay (days)	Median Duration of treatment (days)
65 (1.4-84)	37 (2-137)	7 (1-37)

160 prescriptions



57 fungi was isolated from 52 cultures



## Conclusion:

The population studied confirms the tendency pointed out on the literature, a shift towards species different from *C. albicans* in IFI. Though the use of echinocandins seems to be effective and safe, attention should be paid on local sensibilities since less susceptible species like *C. parapsilopsis* and *A. fumigatus* are spreading.