


# Antifungal Therapy in Leukemia Patients

**UPDATE ECIL 4, 6 September 2011**

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UPDATE ECIL 4, 2011

The logo  on top of a slide means that recommendations has be updated with either a change of grading, an addition or a confirmation of a previous grading

# Background

- Despite recent advances in antifungal therapy there is still a high failure rate in invasive aspergillosis and a 30 to 40% 3-month mortality rate in both candidemia and aspergillosis.
- In the past decades few options were available and there was no place to discuss the best primary or salvage therapy.
- With the development of new agents and strategies, there is now a need for guidelines.

# Questions

- What is the optimal
  - first line antifungal therapy of candidemia / aspergillosis?
  - second line antifungal therapy of candidemia / aspergillosis?
  - duration of antifungal therapy in candidemia / aspergillosis?
- Should *in vitro* susceptibility testing be recommended to guide the choice of antifungals in candidemia / aspergillosis?
- Current indications for combination therapy in candidemia / aspergillosis ?

# Methods

- Questionnaire on practice in Europe
- Literature review
  - Pubmed
  - Cochrane
  - ICAAC, ECCMID, ASH, ASCO, and EBMT
- CDC grading (I-III, A-E)

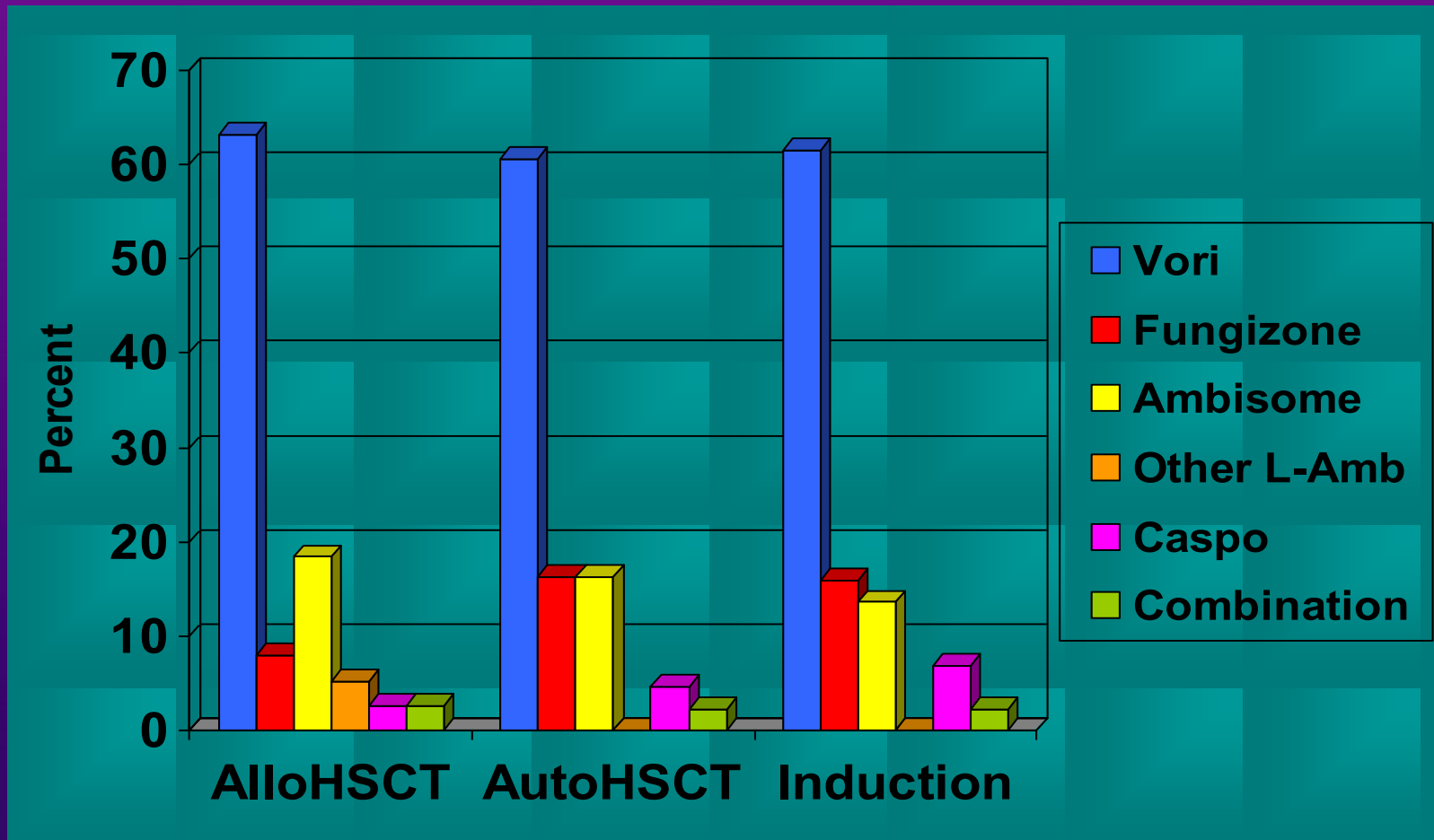
# Invasive aspergillosis

# Questionnaire

*Summer 2005*

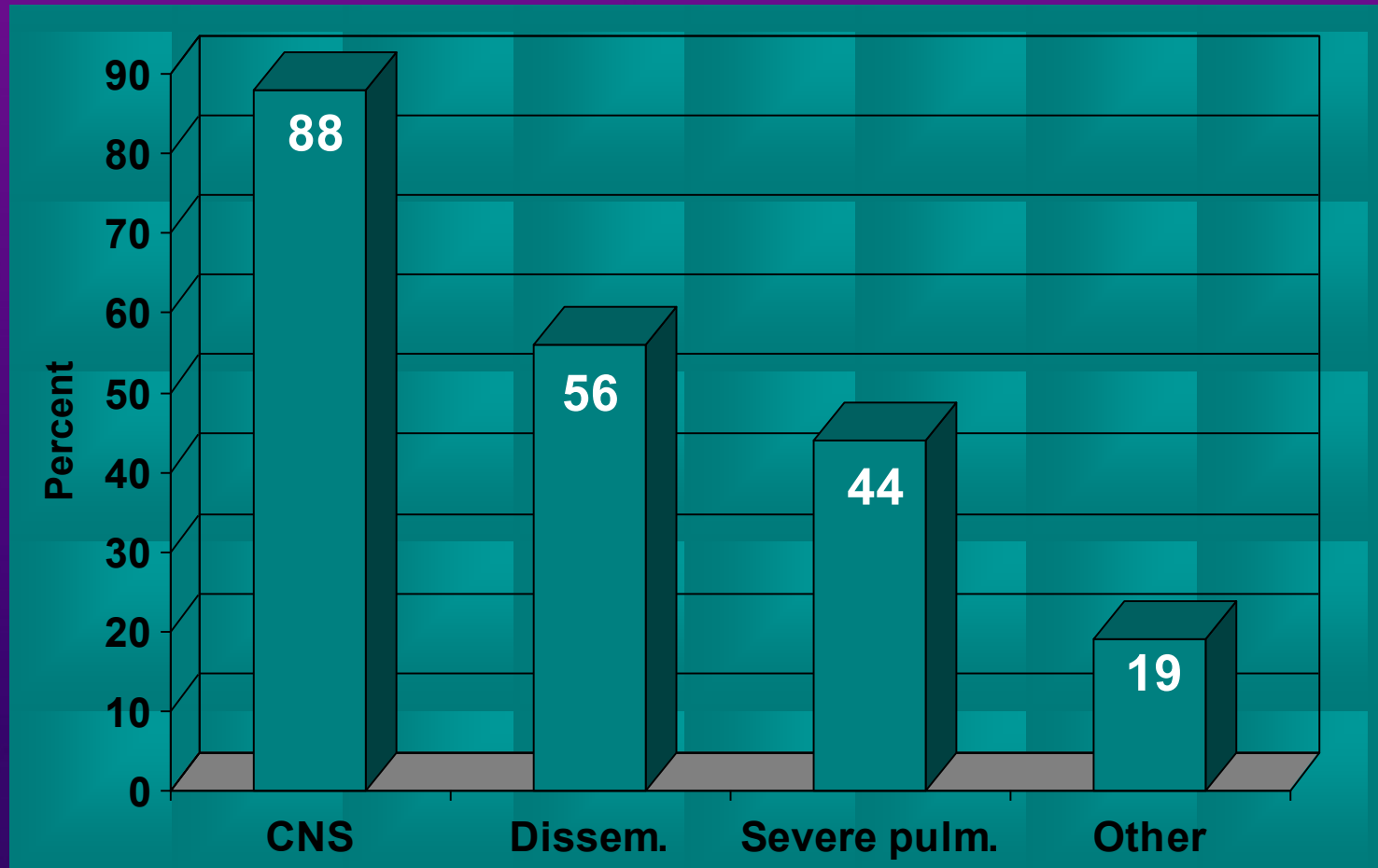
# Questionnaire on current practice (38 responses)

## First line therapy in invasive aspergillosis



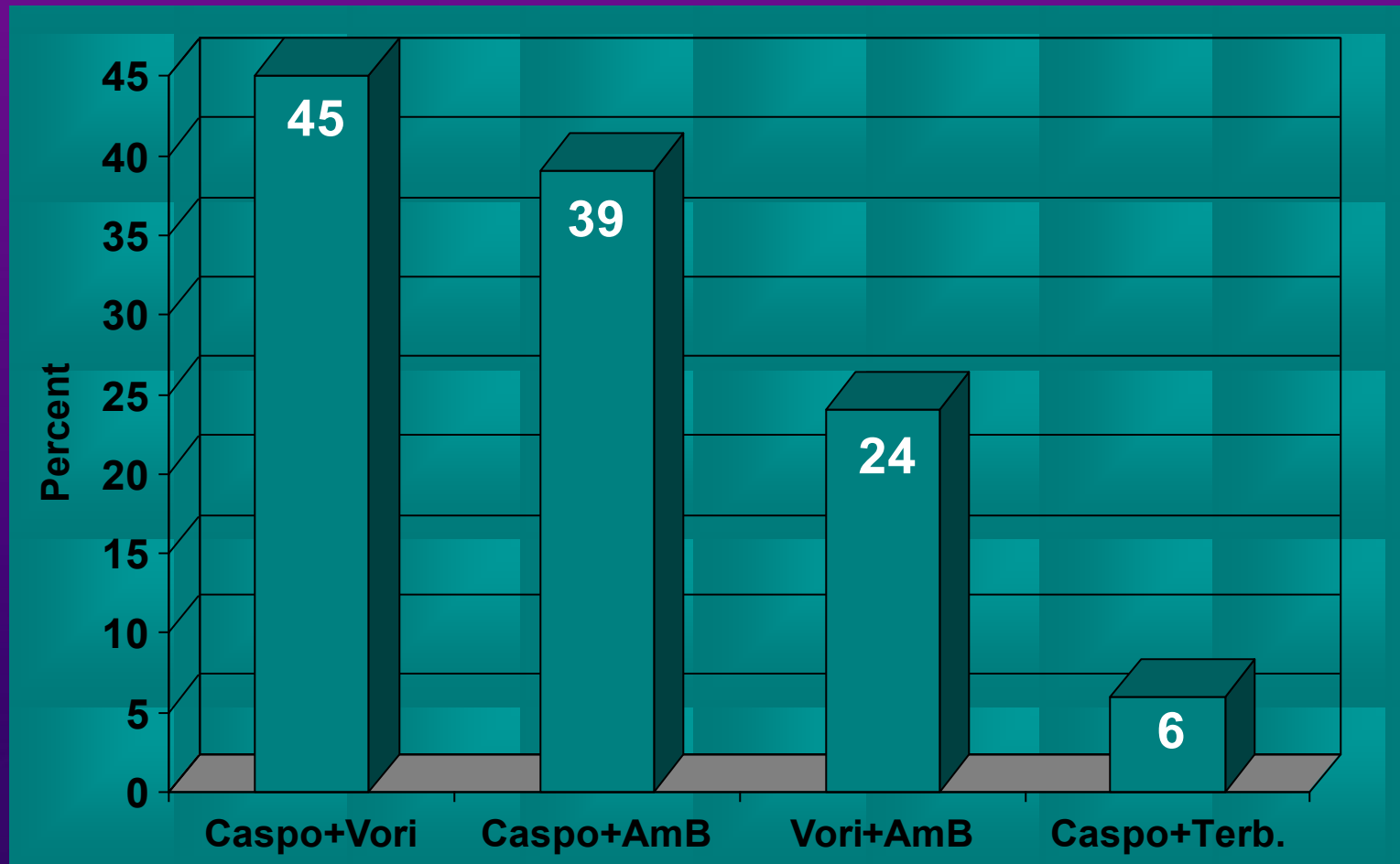


# Questionnaire on current practice (38 responses) Circumstances for use of combination therapy



# Questionnaire on current practice (38 responses)

## Type of combination



In most cases AmB = Ambisome

# Questionnaire on current practice (38 responses)

## Second line therapy for aspergillosis

- Equally distributed between monotherapy and combination
- For monotherapy
  - Caspofungin: 50 to 75%
  - Ambisome: 15 to 18%
  - Voriconazole: 25 to 35%
- For combination
  - Caspofungin + Voriconazole:  $\approx$  40%
  - Caspofungin + AmB:  $\approx$  35%

# Literature search

# Aspergillosis: 1st line therapy with Voriconazole

Randomized, open label comparison (voriconazole versus amphotericin B deoxycholate)

277 probable / proven IA for 391 pts randomized

Allo HSCT  $\approx$  25% ; Leukemia  $\approx$  43%

|                    | Vori  | Ampho B | Significant |
|--------------------|-------|---------|-------------|
| Patients           | 144   | 133     |             |
| Dose (mg/kg/d)     | 7.87  | 0.97    |             |
| CR + PR            | 53%   | 32%     | yes         |
| Survival (week 12) | 71%   | 58%     | yes         |
| Serious AEs        | 13%   | 24%     | yes         |
| Most frequent SAE  | liver | renal   |             |

# Aspergillosis: 1st line with liposomal amphotericin B (Ambisome)

Double blind comparison of Ambisome 3mg/kg and Ambisome 10 mg/kg in primary therapy (Ambiload study)

|                          | <u>Ambisome 3</u> | <u>Ambisome 10</u> |
|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Number pts (ITT)         | 107               | 94                 |
| Median duration therapy  | 15 d              | 14 d               |
| <b>Response at EOT*</b>  | 50%               | 46%                |
| <b>Survival at Wk 12</b> | <b>72%</b>        | <b>59%</b>         |
| <b>Nephrotoxicity</b>    | <b>14%</b>        | <b>31%</b>         |

**Ambisome is effective in invasive aspergillosis**  
**No benefit to increase the dose to 10 mg/kg**

No detailed indication on partial response in main paper and loose definition in reply to Denning et al. (CID 2007, 45:1109)

# Aspergillosis: 1st line therapy with amphotericin B colloidal dispersion (ABCD)

Randomized, double-blind comparison (ABCD versus amphotericin B deoxycholate)

174 possible, probable, proven IA

Allo HSCT  $\approx$  42% ; Leukemia  $\approx$  70%

|                           | ABCD   | Ampho B    | Significant |
|---------------------------|--------|------------|-------------|
| Patients (ITT population) | 88     | 86         |             |
| Dose (mg/kg/d)            | 6      | 1 to 1.5   |             |
| CR + PR                   | 13%    | 15%        | no          |
| Survival (week 12)        | 50%    | 45%        | no          |
| Doubling creatinine       | 11%    | 33%        | yes         |
| Most frequent AE          | Chills | Creatinine |             |

# Caspofungin for primary therapy of invasive aspergillosis

- Two strata in an exploratory study. Results presented separately.
  1. Hematological malignancies: *Viscoli et al., Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy, 2009*
  2. Allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantations: *Herbrecht et al., Bone Marrow Transplantation, in press*



# Caspofungin for primary therapy of invasive aspergillosis

## Hematological malignancies

- 129 patients enrolled
- 61 patients eligible, all with a mycologically documented IA (probable or proven)
- Treated with standard dose of caspofungin
- Mostly acute leukemia; 85% neutropenic
- CR or PR: 20 / 61 (33%); (expected response rate at least 35%)
- 12-week survival: 53%

*Viscoli et al., J Antimicrob Chemother, 2009*

# Caspofungin for primary therapy of invasive aspergillosis

## Allogeneic HSCT recipients

- 42 patients enrolled
- 24 patients eligible, all with a mycologically documented IA (probable or proven)
- Early termination due to slow accrual
- Treated with standard dose of caspofungin
- CR or PR : 10 / 24 (42%)
- 12-week survival: 50%

*Herbrecht et al., Bone Marrow Transplantation, in press*

# Caspofungin for primary therapy of invasive aspergillosis

## Considering

- that study conducted in pts with hematological malignancies was well designed, that expected accrual was obtained and that response rate was below expectation
- that study in alloH SCT pts was stopped prematurely with only 24 pts

C II grading for primary therapy with caspofungin (previously caspofungin was graded C III for primary therapy)

## Papers also considered (1)

### **ABLC versus liposomal AmB monotherapy for invasive aspergillosis in patients with hematologic malignancy.**

***Hachem et al., Cancer 2008***

- Retrospective study of 381 consecutive patients with proven or probable invasive aspergillosis between Jun 93 and Dec 05
- 158 received primary therapy (106 L-AMB and 52 ABLC) and 81 received salvage therapy (51 L-AMB and 30 ABLC)
- Advanced stage and severity of underlying diseases in all groups
- Poor response rates (7.7 to 15.8%) to primary or salvage therapy in both study drug groups regardless of treatment modality.
- High mortality rates in all groups
- Higher nephrotoxicity with ABLC than L-AMB

**No change in grading for**

**Liposomal AmB: B I for first line and B III for salvage**

**ABLC: B II for first line and BIII for salvage**

## Papers also considered (2)

### **Safety and efficacy of a caspofungin-based combination therapy for treatment of proven or probable aspergillosis in pediatric hematologic pts. *Cesaro et al. BMC Infect Dis 2007***

- Retrospective analysis of caspofungin-based combination therapy in 40 pediatric pts (median age 11 y; range: 1-17 y )
- Mostly HSCT recipients and leukemia pts
- Probable IA in 20 (50%) and proven in 20 (50%) pts
- Caspofungin + liposomal AmB (n=18) or caspofungin + voriconazole (n=9) or both sequentially (n=9). Information is missing for 4 pts treated for < 7 days.
- Primary therapy: 20 cases ; salvage therapy: 20 cases
- Favorable response in 21 pts (53%). No difference according to type of combination
- Probability of 100-day survival was 70%

**No change in grading for combination therapy  
(previously D III for first line and C II for salvage)**

## Papers also considered (3)

### Treatment of invasive pulmonary aspergillosis in neutropenic patients by additional bronchoscopic amphotericin B instillation. *Winkler et al, Respiration 2007*

- 20 patients treated between February 1996 and October 2002
- First line therapy with AmB deoxycholate (8 pts) or AmB deoxycholate followed by liposomal AmB (10 pts) or liposomal AmB (23 pts)
- Most pts received in addition flucytosine, fluconazole or itraconazole
- Paper not further considered as reference for primary therapy of invasive aspergillosis has changed since this study

**No recommendation**

# Aspergillosis: salvage therapy

- Only open-label, non comparative studies
- Pts failing or intolerant of ampho B or itraconazole
  - Ambisome, ABLC, ABCD, voriconazole, posaconazole, caspofungin are effective in 30 to 50% of the cases
  - Insufficient data for itraconazole
- Pts failing caspofungin
  - Voriconazole was effective in 8 / 12 patients (67%)

*Ringden et al., J Antimicrob Chemother, 1991; Denning et al, CID, 2002; Perfect et al, CID, 2003; Maertens et al. CID, 2004 ; Kartsonnis et al, J Infect, 2005; Walsh et al., CID 1998; Oppenheim, CID, 1995; Candoni et al., Eur J Haematol, 2005; Patterson et al, ICAAC; Denning et al., Am J Med, 1994*

# Posaconazole in aspergillosis

- Paper published in CID (Walsh et al, 2007)
- Previously graded on abstract presented at ASH (Blood 2003, supplement)
- No change
  - No data in first line
  - B II for salvage



# Aspergillosis: combination in 1st line

- Ampho B + placebo versus Ampho B + terbinafine
  - Results never published; Higher mortality with combination
- Ambisome + anidulafungin
  - Efficacy results not yet presented or published
  - No unexpected AEs but 57% (17 / 30) deaths
- Itra + lipid ampho B (n=11) compared retrospectively to lipid Ampho B alone (n = 101)
  - No response (0%) in combination therapy compared to 10% in monotherapy group
- Ambisome + caspofungin
  - 9 / 17 (53%) response in possible, probable, proven cases

*Steinbach et al, CID, 2003; Herbrecht et al., ASBMT, 2004; Kontoyiannis et al., Cancer, 2005; Kontoyianis et al., CID, 2003*

# Aspergillosis: Salvage combination therapy

- Vori + caspo (n=16) versus historical control group of vori alone (n=31) after failure of ampho B or itra
  - Higher 3-month survival in patients receiving combination (HR 0.42)
- Ambisome + caspo (n=31) after failure of Ambisome
  - 57% response in possible, 18% in probable or proven cases
- Ambisome (or ampho B) + caspo in possible, probable or proven aspergillosis failing ampho B
  - 18 / 30 favorable response (60%); 67% survival to discharge

# Combination therapy in aspergillosis

Caspofungin with another antifungal agent (Maertens et al. Cancer 2007)

- 53 patients, salvage therapy
- Response rate at end of combination: 55%
- Day 84 survival: 55%

Lipid Amphotericin B + caspofungin (59 pts) or Voriconazole + caspofungin (33 pts) as salvage therapy (Raad et al, ICAAC, 2007)

- 12-week survival: 48% for Voriconazole + caspofungin compared to 25% for Lipid-Amphotericin B + caspofungin
- Retrospective comparison ; High rate of *Aspergillus terreus*

**Updated grading of combination therapy as salvage for invasive aspergillosis: C II instead C III at ECIL 1**

# Aspergillosis

- Efficacy of caspofungin as salvage therapy for invasive aspergillosis compared to standard therapy in a historical cohort.  
*Hiemenz et al. Eur J Clin Microbiol Infect Dis, 2010*
  - Comparison of the 83 pts of the Caspofungin Salvage Invasive Aspergillosis Study (Maertens et al., Clin Infect Dis 2004) to a historical control group of 214 pts with documented IA refractory or intolerant to standard therapy (AmB, lipid-AmB, itra)
  - Favorable response rates: 45% with caspo and 16% in control group
- Caspofungin use in daily clinical practice for treatment of invasive aspergillosis: results of a prospective observational registry.  
*Maertens et al. BMC Infect Dis, 2010*
  - Prospective observational registry in 11 countries
  - 101 proven or probable invasive aspergillosis; caspo salvage therapy
  - Favorable response: 56%

No change in recommendation for caspofungin for salvage therapy: B II

# Aspergillosis

- Caspofungin plus posaconazole as salvage therapy of invasive fungal infections in immunocompromised patients.  
*Lellek et al. Mycosis, 2011, 54 Suppl 1*
  - Retrospective, monocentric
  - 31 **HSCT** patients with refractory IA
  - Combination of caspofungin 50 mg/d and posaconazole 800 mg/d
  - Favorable response rate: 77%
- Micafungin alone or in combination with other systemic antifungal therapies in HSCT recipients with invasive aspergillosis  
*Kontoyiannis et al., Transpl Infect Dis. 2009*
  - 87 **HSCT** recipients with IA refractory ( prior therapy mostly lipid AmB)
  - Micafungin 75 mg/d, mostly in combination with lipid-AmB
  - Successful response: 24%

No change in recommendation for combination therapy in second line: C II

# Recommendations Aspergillosis

# Invasive pulmonary aspergillosis :1st line

| Agent                       | Grade | Comments  |
|-----------------------------|-------|---|
| Voriconazole                | A I   | 2x6 mg/kg D1 then 2x4 mg/kg<br>(initiation with oral: CIII) |
| Ambisome                    | B I   | dose 3 – 5 mg/kg  |
| ABLC                        | B II  | dose 5 mg/kg  |
| Caspofungin                 | C II  |   |
| Itraconazole                | C III | start with iv   |
| ABCD                        | D I   |   |
| Amphotericin B deoxycholate | D I   |   |
| Combination                 | D III |   |

*In the absence of data in 1st line, posaconazole has not been graded*

# Invasive aspergillosis: salvage

| <b>Agent</b>        | <b>Grade</b> | <b>Comments</b>                        |
|---------------------|--------------|--|
| <b>Ambisome</b>     | <b>B III</b> | <b>no data in voriconazole failure</b> |
| <b>ABLC</b>         | <b>B III</b> | <b>no data in voriconazole failure</b> |
| <b>Caspofungin</b>  | <b>B II</b>  | <b>no data in voriconazole failure</b> |
| <b>Posaconazole</b> | <b>B II</b>  | <b>no data in voriconazole failure</b> |
| <b>Voriconazole</b> | <b>B II</b>  | <b>if not used in 1st line</b>         |
| <b>Itraconazole</b> | <b>C III</b> | <b>Insufficient data</b>               |



# Invasive pulmonary aspergillosis: antifungal combinations

- First line
  - Not recommended DIII
- Salvage
  - Caspofungin + lipid ampho B C II
  - Caspofungin + voriconazole C II
  - Ampho B (any formulation) + azole: no data

# Aspergillosis

- Surgery (CIII) in case of
  - Lesion contiguous to a large vessel
  - Hemoptysis from a single lesion (embolization is an alternative)
  - Localized extrapulmonary lesion including central nervous system lesion (on case by case)

# Aspergillosis: unsolved questions

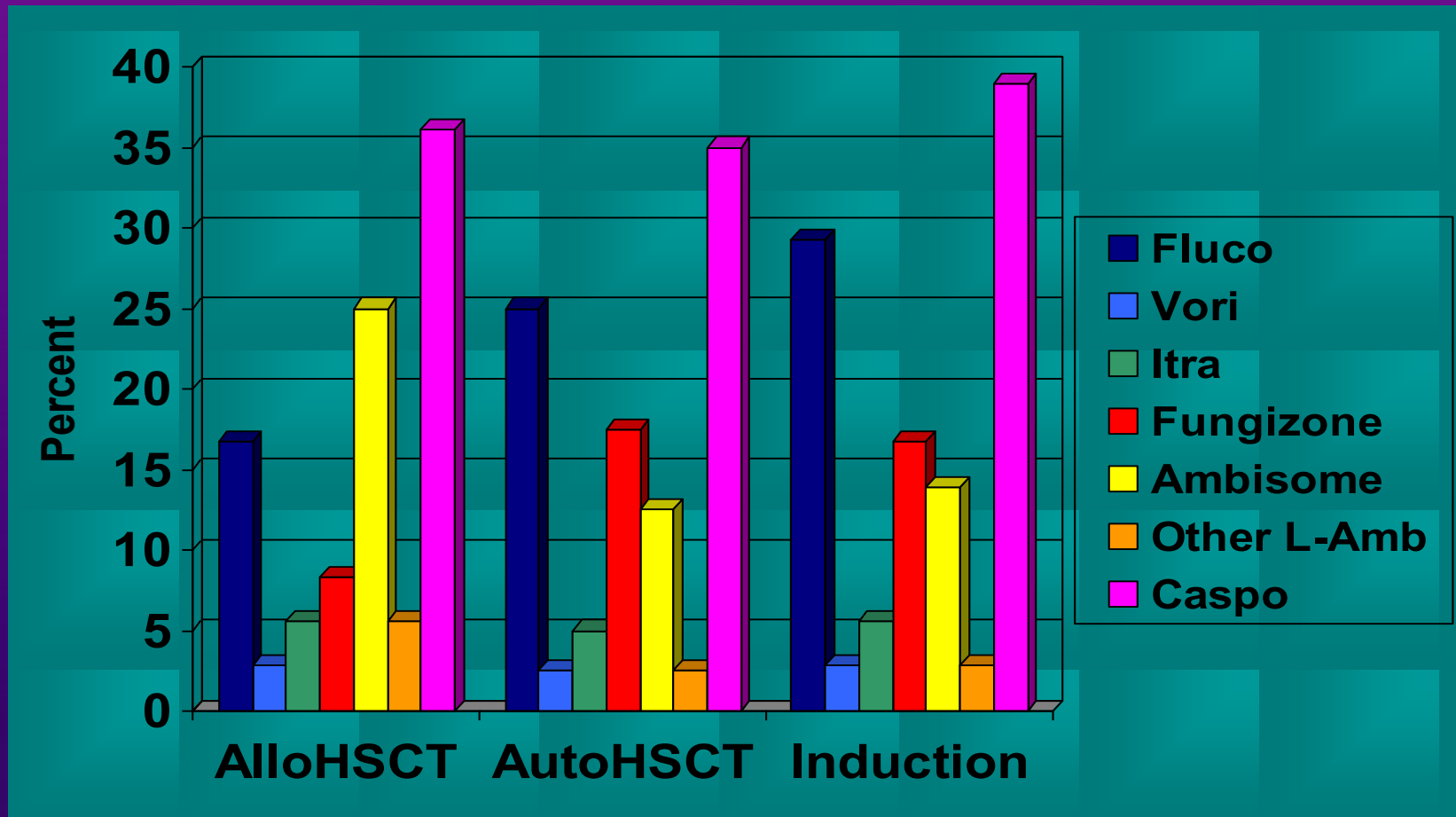
- Duration of therapy
  - No fixed duration
- Drug monitoring, especially for azoles, may be indicated in case of failure or of adverse events
- In vitro testing
  - Filamentous fungi are not routinely tested for susceptibility
  - No correlation between susceptibility testing and outcome
  - *Identification to the species level is recommended : C III*

# Invasive candidiasis

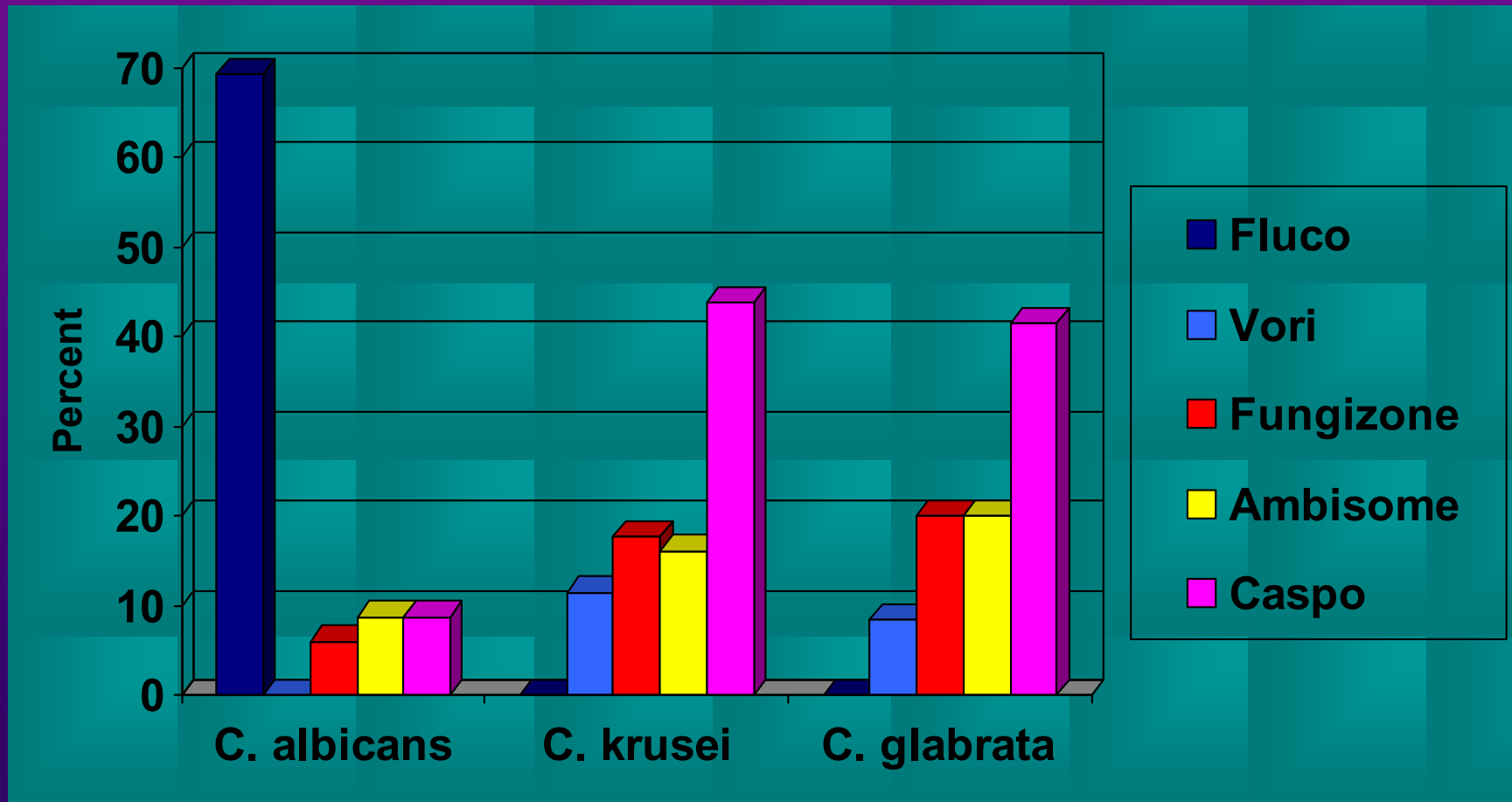
# Questionnaire

*Summer 2005*

# Questionnaire on current practice (38 responses) Therapy in candidemia (before species identification)



# Questionnaire on current practice (38 responses) Therapy in candidemia (after species identification)



# Literature search



# Neutropenia and Candidemia

The following 12 studies were analyzed:

- Rex, JH et al. N Engl J Med, 1994
- Nguyen, MH et al. Arch Intern Med, 1995
- Anaissie EJ et al. Clin Infect Dis, 1996
- Anaissie EJ et al. Am J Med, 1996
- Phillips P et al. Eur J Clin Microbiol Infect Dis, 1997
- Anaissie EJ et al. Am J Med, 1998
- Mora-Duarte J et al. N Engl J Med, 2002
- Rex JH et al. Clin Infect Dis, 2003
- Ostrosky-Zeichner L et al. Eur J Clin Microbiol Infect Dis, 2003
- Kullberg BJ et al. Clinical Microbiology and Infection, 2004
- Kartsonis NA et al. J Antimicrob Chemother, 2004
- DiNubile et al. J Infect 2005

# Three Studies Including Neutropenic Patients

| Author       | Anaissie EJ   | Mora-Duarte J.  | Ostrosky-Zeichner                    |
|--------------|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| Patients     | 217 neutropenic<br>257 non neutropenic                | 24 neutropenic<br>200 non neutropenic                     | 13 neutropenic<br>52 non neutropenic |
| Study design | retrospective   | randomized  | compassionate use                    |
| Antifungals  | Fluconazole vs<br>Amphotericin B                      | Caspofungin vs<br>Amphotericin B                          | Voriconazole                         |
| Success      | all patients<br>71% Fluconazole<br>73% Amphotericin B | (24 neutropenic)<br>Caspofungin 6/8<br>Amphotericin B 3/8 | 13 neutropenic<br>Voriconazole 6/13  |
| Comments     | neutropenic patients<br>more likely tt Ampho B        | tt at least 5d  | 83% previous tt<br>with azole        |

tt: Treatment



# Efungumab (Mycograb)

- A human recombinant antibody (Fv fragment) that binds to HSP90 of **Candida**
- **Double-blind, placebo-controlled, randomized, multicentre study of patients with culture-confirmed candidiasis**
  - Pilot study (n=21) and a confirmatory study (n=137)
    - All patients received AmBisome (3mg/kg/d) or Abelcet (5mg/kg/d)
    - Patients were randomized to received Efungumab (1 mg/kg bid) or placebo
  - Only very limited number of neutropenic patients
  - Some methodological concerns
  - So far not approved. Sofar not graded by the ECIL

*Pachl et al. CID 2006, 42: 1404*

# Anidulafungin in candidiasis

Double-blind comparison of anidula 200 mg then 100 with fluco. 800 mg then 400 in invasive candidiasis in adults

|  | Anidulafungin | Fluconazole | p value |
|--|---------------|-------------|---------|
| <b>Number pts (MITT)</b>                                       | 118           | 127         | <.02    |
| <b>Response</b>  |               |             |         |
| - End of therapy   | 74.0%         | 56.8%       |         |
| - Limited number of neutropenic patients: 3 and 4 respectively |               |             |         |
| <b>Mycological eradication</b>                                 |               |             |         |
| - <i>C albicans</i>  | 77/81 (95%)   | 57/70 (81%) |         |
| - <i>C glabrata</i>  | 15/20 (75%)   | 18/30 (60%) |         |
| - <i>C krusei</i>  | EXCLUSION     | CRITERIA    |         |
| - <i>C parapsilosis</i>  | 9/13 (69%)    | 14/16 (88%) |         |
| <b>All cause mortality</b>                                     | 23%           | 31%         | 0.13    |

**Anidulafungin has shown non-inferiority to fluconazole**



# Micafungin in candidiasis (1)

*Double-blind comparison of micafungin with Ambisome in invasive candidiasis in adults*

|                                       | <b>Micafungin 100 mg</b> | <b>Ambisome 3 mg/kg</b> |         |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| Number pts (MITT)                     | 247                      | 247                     |         |
| <b>Response</b>                       |                          |                         |         |
| - Overall                             | 74.1%                    | 69.6%                   |         |
| - Neutropenic pts                     | 19/32 (59.4%)            | 14/25 (56.0%)           |         |
| <b>Mycological persistence at EOT</b> |                          |                         |         |
| - <i>C albicans</i>                   | 9/85 (11%)               | 8/73 (11%)              |         |
| - <i>C glabrata</i>                   | 3/22 (14%)               | 3/15 (20%)              |         |
| - <i>C krusei</i>                     | 1/6 (17%)                | 1/5 (20%)               |         |
| - <i>C parapsilosis</i>               | 5/35 (14%)               | 3/29 (10%)              |         |
| Deaths at Week12                      | 40%                      | 40%                     |         |
| Infusion related AEs                  | 17.0%                    | 28.8%                   | p=.001  |
| Nephrotoxicity                        | 10.3%                    | 29.9%                   | p<.0001 |

**Micafungin has shown non-inferiority to Ambisome and better tolerance**

## Micafungin in candidiasis (2)

Double-blind comparison of micafungin (100 mg or 150 mg) to caspofungin (70 D1 then 50 mg) in invasive candidiasis in adults

|                             | Micafungin 100 | Micafungin 150 | Caspofungin |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Number pts (MITT)           | 191            | 168            | 188         |
| <b>Response</b>             |                |                |             |
| - Overall                   | 87.4%          | 87.4%          | 87.2%       |
| - Neutropenic pts           | 18/22(82%)     | 9/17(53%)      | 7/11(64%)   |
| <b>Mycological response</b> |                |                |             |
| - <i>C albicans</i>         | 71/92 (77%)    | 71/102 (69.6)  | 61/83 (74%) |
| - <i>C glabrata</i>         | 24/28 (86%)    | 30/34 (88%)    | 22/33 (67%) |
| - <i>C krusei</i>           | 6/8 (75%)      | 5/8 (63%)      | 3/4 (75%)   |
| - <i>C parapsilosis</i>     | 22/29 (76%)    | 15/21 (71%)    | 27/42 (64%) |

**No difference in adverse events, in mortality, or in relapses**

**Micafungin 100 mg and micafungin 150 mg are non-inferior to caspofungin in invasive candidiasis**

**No benefit to increase micafungin dose to 150 mg**

# Micafungin in candidiasis (3)

*Double-blind comparison of micafungin with Ambisome in invasive candidiasis in pediatric patients*

|                               | <b>Micafungin</b> | <b>Ambisome</b> |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Daily dose                    | 2 mg/kg           | 3 mg/kg         |
| Number pts (ITT)              | 52                | 54              |
| <b>Response</b>               |                   |                 |
| - Overall                     | 69.2%             | 74.1%           |
| - Neutropenic pts             | 5/7 (71.4%)       | 10/13 (76.9%)   |
| <b>Discontinuation for AE</b> | 3.8%              | 16.7%           |

# High dose caspofungin in candidiasis

- Double-blind comparison of two doses of caspofungin in invasive candidiasis.
  - 104 pts received standard dose (SD) : 70 mg on d1 then 50 mg/d
  - 100 pts received high dose (HD): 150 mg/d
  - 60 pts with active malignancy but only 15 neutropenic and 10 transplant recipients
  - 42% *C. albicans*, 21% *C. parapsilosis*, 10% *C. glabrata*

*Betts et al., Clin Infect Dis, 2009*



# High dose caspofungin in candidiasis

## Safety outcomes

|                         | SD (n=104) | HD (n=100) |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|
| Treat. duration         | 14.5 d     | 14.2 d     |
| Drug related AE         | 20 (19%)   | 19 (19%)   |
| - leading to discontin. | 2 (2%)     | 2 (2%)     |

No differences in frequency and type of events

*Betts et al., Clin Infect Dis, 2009*

# High dose caspofungin in candidiasis

## Efficacy outcomes

|                    | SD (n=102)   | HD (n=95)   |
|--------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Favorable response |              |             |
| Overall            | 73/102 (72%) | 74/95 (78%) |
| Neutropenic pts    | 2/6 (33%)    | 4/7 (57%)   |

No differences in

- time to clear blood cultures
- in 8 weeks mortality rate (33 and 38% respectively)

*Betts et al., Clin Infect Dis, 2009*

No change in grading for caspofungin  
(previously: A I in overall population  
B II in hematological pts)

# Candidemia

- Monotherapy with caspofungin for candidaemia in adult patients with cancer: a retrospective, single institution study  
*Sipsas et al. Int J Antimicrob Agents, 2009*
  - Retrospective, non-comparative, single center
  - 63 adults with cancer and candidemia; caspofungin monotherapy
  - Clinical response rate 78%
- Caspofungin for the treatment of candidaemia in patients with haematological malignancies.  
*Pagano et al. Clin Microbiol Infect, 2010*
  - Prospective, non-comparative, 11 hematology centers
  - 24 neutropenic patients with candidemia treated with caspofungin
  - Favorable overall response rate: 58%

No change in recommendation for caspofungin  
A I (overall population), B II (hematological pts)

# Recommendations Candidiasis

# Candidemia in hematologic patients before species identification

|                  | Overall population | Hematological pts |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Micafungin       | A I                | B II              |
| Anidulafungin    | A I                | B II              |
| Caspofungin      | A I                | B II              |
| Ambisome         | A I                | B II              |
| Other lipid-AmB  | A II               | B II              |
| AmB deoxycholate |                    | A I *<br>C III *  |
| Fluconazole      | A I **             | C III             |
| Voriconazole     | A I ***            | B II              |

\* DIII if concomitant nephrotoxic drug and EIII if renal impairment

\*\* Not in severely ill patients or in patients with previous azole prophylaxis

\*\* Not in patients with previous azole prophylaxis

# Candidemia after species identification (1/2)

Overall population      Hematological pts

|               |                   |     |      |
|---------------|-------------------|-----|------|
| Micafungin    | <i>C albicans</i> | A I | B II |
|               | <i>C glabrata</i> | B I | B II |
|               | <i>C krusei</i>   | B I | B II |
| Anidulafungin | <i>C albicans</i> | A I | B II |
|               | <i>C glabrata</i> | B I | B II |
|               | <i>C krusei</i>   | B I | B II |
| Caspofungin   | <i>C albicans</i> | A I | B II |
|               | <i>C glabrata</i> | B I | B II |
|               | <i>C krusei</i>   | B I | B II |

# Candidemia after species identification (2/2)

|                  |                   | Overall population | Hematological pts |
|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Ambisome         | <i>C albicans</i> | A I                | B II              |
|                  | <i>C glabrata</i> | B I                | B II              |
|                  | <i>C krusei</i>   | B I                | B II              |
| Other lipid-AmB  | <i>C albicans</i> | A II               | B II              |
|                  | <i>C glabrata</i> | B II               | B II              |
|                  | <i>C krusei</i>   | B II               | B II              |
| AmB deoxycholate | <i>C albicans</i> | A I                | C III             |
|                  | <i>C glabrata</i> | B I                | C III             |
|                  | <i>C krusei</i>   | B I                | C III             |
|                  |                   | } *                | } *               |
| Fluconazole      | <i>C albicans</i> | A I                | C III             |
|                  | <i>C glabrata</i> | C III              | D III             |
|                  | <i>C krusei</i>   | E III              | E III             |
| Voriconazole     | <i>C albicans</i> | A I                | C III             |
|                  | <i>C glabrata</i> | C III              | C III             |
|                  | <i>C krusei</i>   | B I                | C III             |

\* DIII if concomitant nephrotoxic drug and EIII if renal impairment

# Duration of antifungal therapy in candidemia



# Duration of antifungal therapy in candidemia : overview of selected studies

- 12 studies 1994 – 2005
- 3/12 prospective, randomized & double-blinded
- Duration of AFT designed *a priori* in 4 studies
- Total effective duration of therapy 10-21 d. except for « salvage » studies (30-60 d.)
- No specific study in leukemia / neutropenia
- No well-designed trial specifically studying duration of therapy

# Duration of antifungal therapy in candidemia : current guidelines

| Guideline    | Duration recommended   | Specific guidelines in neutropenia          |
|--------------|--|---|
| Germany 2003 | 2 w. OR 10-14 d. after 1 <sup>st</sup> –ve BC with adapt. to possible organ manif. | None  |
| Spain 2003   | 2 w. after last +ve BC AND resol. of sympt. AND $\geq$ 4 w. if dissem.             | None  |
| France 2004  | 2 w. after last +ve BC AND resol. of sympt.  | $\geq$ 7 d. after resolution of neutropenia |
| U.S.A. 2004  | 2 w. after last +ve BC AND resol. of signs & sympt. of infection                   | 2 w. after resolution of neutropenia        |

# Recommendations for duration of therapy in candidemia

# Duration of antifungal therapy in candidemia : recommendations

Non-neutropenic adults: at least 14 days after the last +ve blood culture and resolution of signs and symptoms : **B III**

Neutropenic patients: at least 14 days after the last +ve blood culture and resolution of signs and symptoms and resolved neutropenia: **C III**

*Importance of an active search for dissemination of infection in leukemic patients following neutrophil recovery (ocular fundus + abdominal imaging)*

# Antifungal susceptibility testing in candidemia

# Antifungal susceptibility testing in candidemia : *in vitro* / clinical correlation

- 11 studies 1988-2005
- 7/11 prospective (or data extracted from prospective studies)
- Heterogeneous populations
- Various number of episodes analyzed (24 – 262)
- Amphotericin B and/or fluconazole
- Attempts to correlate *in vitro* AFST or inappropriate AF therapy and outcome (death or clinical / microbiologic treatment failure)

| Ref           | Method             | N         | AF         | Method            | Correlation                            |
|---------------|--------------------|-----------|------------|-------------------|--|
| Powderly 88   | retrosp            | 29        | Ampho      | Tube dil.         | Yes (MIC – mortality)                  |
| Rex 95        | prosp.             | 232       | Ampho /FCZ | NCCLS             | No                                     |
| Nguyen 98     | prosp.             | 105       | Ampho      | NCCLS             | Yes (MLC - microb. failure)            |
| Clancy 99     | prosp.             | 99        | Ampho      | E-test            | Yes (MIC – microb. failure)            |
| Kovacicova 00 | ?                  | 262       | FCZ        | Agar E-test       | Yes (attributable mortality)           |
| Lee 00        | prosp.             | 32        | FCZ        | NCCLS             | Yes (success rate)                     |
| Wenisch 01    | prosp.             | 24        | Ampho /FCZ | NCCLS<br>Flow cyt | Yes (AFST by flow cytometry – outcome) |
| Antoniadou 03 | Retrosp<br>Mult an | 80<br>272 | Ampho /FCZ | NCCLS             | Yes (inappr. AFT – outcome)            |
| Baddley 04    | prosp.             | 119       | FCZ        | NCCLS             | Yes (AFST - outcome)                   |
| Chen 05       | retrosp            | 56        | Ampho /FCZ | E-test            | No                                     |
| Clancy 05     | prosp.             | 32        | FCZ        | NCCLS             | Yes (MIC & dose/MIC - outcome)         |

# Antifungal susceptibility testing in candidemia: current « guidelines »

| Guideline    | Recommendation  | Comment on choice of therapy   |
|--------------|---|--|
| Germany 2003 | None  | NA   |
| Spain 2003   | AFST (not graded)   | None   |
| France 2004  | Routine E-test (B-II)   | None   |
| U.S.A. 2004  | NCCLS M27A & FCZ<br>Not a standard of care<br>Helpful in deep or hematogenous infection | Helpful in case of lack of clinical response<br>May support oral switch to azole (long-term therapies) |

Not graded



# Recommendations

## for antifungal susceptibility testing

# Antifungal susceptibility testing (AFST)

AFST should be performed in hematological patients on isolates from blood or normally sterile sites, in order to:

- evaluate a possible cause of lack of clinical response or microbiologic eradication **A II**
- support a change in initial antifungal therapy **B II**
- support a switch from an IV antifungal to an oral azole **A II**

# Recommendations

for catheter removal in candidemia

# Candidemia: catheter removal

- Removal of central venous line
  - is a consensus recommendation for the non-hematological patients **A II**
  - in hematology patients the quality of evidence is lower **B III**
  - removal is always recommended when *C parapsilosis* is isolated **A II**