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| **Name of disease** | **Candida Albicans** |
| **Name of causative agent** | Yeast (Candida) |
| Category (fungus, etc.?) | Fungi |
| Multi- or uni- cellular? | Unicellular oval-shaped |
| **Epidemiology** |  |
| Geographic prevalence | Member of human gut flora—unable to flourish outside the body. It is present in 70% humans but develops problems in immune-compromised individuals (Kabir, Hussain & Ahmad, 2012) |
| Average rates of infection | Mortality rate is less than 40% (Gudlaugsson et. al., 2003). Nearly 46,000 cases of this condition are reported each year in US (CDC, 2015) |
| Reservoir | Intestinal tract, skin and mucus membrane without causing any illness. However, problems can be initiated when overgrowth of these organisms takes place (Rosenbach et. al., 2010; Naglik et. al., 2011) |
| Transmission mode | Food borne, moist or wet places—particularly in case of skin or vaginal infections) (Rosenbach et. al., 2010) |
| **Pathology** |  |
| Major tissues/organs | **Urinary Tract:** this type of yeast is the major cause of Urinary tract infection which affects lower parts of the tract more often but is potent enough to perpetuate up to the kidneys (Pappas, 2016).  **Vagina:** it affects both vaginal anatomy and its secretions (Goncalves et. al., 2016).  **Mouth and Blood:** Abnormal development of this organism causes throat or mouth infection typically known as thrash (Epstein et. al., 1998). When these species render successful in entering blood and eventually whole body, the condition is known as invasive candidiasis |
| Major signs/symptoms | In mouth (CDC, 2015)   1. Cottony texture inside the mouth 2. Loss of taste is more frequent 3. Swallowing and eating accompanied with pain 4. Cracked and red corners of mouth 5. Inner cheeks, tongue and roof of the mouth having white patches   In vagina (CDC, 2015)   1. Soreness and itching in vagina 2. Sexual intercourse accompanied with pain 3. Urination pain 4. Abnormal vaginal secretions   Urinary tract (Diekema, 2004)   1. Bloody urine 2. Elevated sense of urination 3. Pelvic and abdominal pain 4. Burning sensation while urinating |
| Complications? | Develops variety of complications in individuals with different affected sites. Mouth infection intervenes with the taste and texture of mouth and tongue, swallowing and eating problems; vaginal infection interferes with the vaginal secretions and pain. Gastrointestinal tract intervenes the urination (Diekema, 2004) |
| Latency? | It takes 1-3 days to develop yeast infections after abnormal growth is initiated in the problematic body organs (CDC, 2015) |
| **Treatment** |  |
| Main treatment methods | Medications and preventive measures (CDC, 2015; Pappas et. al., 2016)  Consuming prescribed antifungal medicines e.g., fluconazole in case of severe mouth, vaginal infection and urinary tract infection (oral). In case of vaginal or mouth infection, antifungal cream and suppository treatments are other widely-acknowledged treatments. |
| Typical length of treatment | It takes 7-14 days getting treated when oral and suppository options are being used (CDC, 2015) |
| Prophylaxis? | Oral medication is available along with the ointment or suppository options (Pappas et. al., 2016) |
| **Interesting fact?** | Centuries back nearly about 400 BC, Hippocrates mentioned this disease in his paper *work of the epidemics (*Kurtzman & Jack, 1998). It is named after Latin word “Candidus” meaning ‘White” *(*Kurtzman & Jack, 1998). |

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