

Disclosures. All authors: No reported disclosures.

259. Racial Differences in Clinical Phenotype and Hospitalization of Blastomycosis Patients

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Background. Dimorphic fungal infections, such as blastomycosis, cause significant morbidity and mortality. Most studies describing blastomycosis have focused on non-Hispanic Caucasians and our understanding of the clinical presentation and outcomes for patients of other race/ethnicities is limited. We evaluated whether clinical presentation and disease severity varied across racial/ethnic groups.

Methods. Blastomycosis patients were identified from Marshfield Clinic Health System and patient data were abstracted from electronic medical records. *Blastomyces* genotyping was performed for cases with available isolates. Univariate analyses using χ^2 tests and multivariate logistic regression modeling were used to determine the association of race/ethnicity with clinical presentation. Significance was defined as $P \le 0.05$.

Results. In total 477 patients were included. Age differences were observed across race/ethnicity categories (P < 0.0001). Non-Hispanic, Caucasians were oldest (47 years, SD 20) and Asians were the youngest (30 years, SD 18). Underlying medical conditions were more common in non-Hispanic Caucasians (55%) and African Americans (AA) (52%) than Hispanic Caucasians (27%) and Asians (29%, P = 0.0002). Risk for hospitalization was highest for Hispanic Caucasian (aOR 2.9, 95% CI 1.2–1.7), American Indian Alaskan Native (AIAN) (aOR = 2.4; 95% CI 1.0–5.5), and Asian (aOR = 1.9; 95% CI 1.0–3.6) patients when compared with non-Hispanic Caucasian patients. Ninety percent of B. dermatitidis infections occurred in non-Hispanic Caucasians whereas blastomycosis in Hispanic Caucasian, AIAN, and Asian patients was frequently caused by B. gilchristii (P < 0.0001).

Conclusion. Hispanic Caucasian, AIAN, and Asian blastomycosis patients were younger and healthier, but more frequently hospitalized. Patients in these racial/ethnic groups may need more aggressive treatment and closer therapeutic monitoring. Underlying host factors along with organism virulence likely play a role in these differences.

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260. Detection of Aspergillus fumigatus Infection in Mice with 2-Deoxy-2-[18F] fluorosorbitol

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Background. Invasive aspergillosis is a major cause of infectious morbidity and mortality in immunocompromised patients. However, definitive diagnosis of invasive Aspergillus infection is still difficult due to the lack of a rapid, sensitive and specific diagnostic methods. In this studies, we investigated 2-deoxy-2-[¹⁸F] fluorosorbitol ([¹⁸F]FDS) which has been reported to be accumulated in Gram-negative bacteria but not in Gram-positive bacteria or healthy mammalian or cancer cells, for the imaging detection of *Aspergullus fumigatus* infections with PET *in vivo*.

detection of Aspergullus fumigatus infections with PET in vivo.

Methods. [¹8F]FDS was synthesized by reduction of 2-deoxy-2-[¹8F]fluoro-D-glucose ([¹8F]FDG) using NaBH. When the reaction was complete, the mixture was adjusted to a pH value to 6.5–7.5. Subsequently, the solution was filtered directly into a sterile product vial through a Sep-Pak Alumina N cartridge with a sterile filter. The probe uptake assay was performed by incubating bacterial cell and fungi with [¹8F] FDS (20 μCi) at 37°C for 2 h. Female BALB/c were immunosuppressed with cyclophosphamide and cortisone acetate prior to A. fumigatus intranasal, intramuscular, brain infection. The mircoPET images were obtained at 2 h after i.v. injection of [¹8F] FDS in infected mice.

Results. In vitro uptake test revealed significantly higher accumulation of [¹⁸F]FDS at 2 hin A. fumigatus, C. albicans and R. oryzae rather than with bacterial strains (Figure 1). PET imaging of BALB/c mice with pulmonary A. fumigatus infections showed obvious accumulation of [¹⁸F]FDS in the infected lungs compared with control (Figure 2). [¹⁸F]FDS PET imaging also detected A. fumigatus muscle and brain infection in mice. In infected shoulder muscle of mice, [¹⁸F] FDS PET imaging showed high legion-to-background ratio at 2 h. (4.05 ± 1.59, Figure 3).

Conclusion. [18F]FDS PET study demonstrated stable uptake in infected tissue with A. fumigatus and rapid clearance from the blood and other organs. [18F]FDS could be a useful imaging probe visualizing the invasive aspergillosis in vivo.

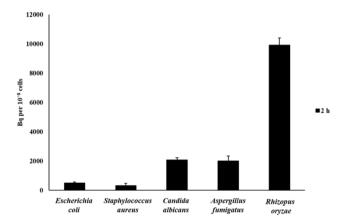


Figure 1. In vitro uptake of [18F]FDS in Escherichia coli (positive control), Staphylococcus aureus (negative control), Aspergillus fumigatus, Candida albicans and Rhizopus oryzae after 2 hours of incubation.

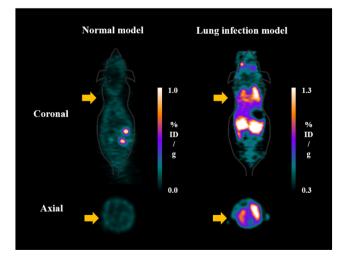


Figure 2. Coronal (upper) and transaxial (lower) images of a normal and lung infection model with *Aspergillus fumigatus* (yellow arrow) at 2 h post-injection of [lsF]FDS.