



www.gaffi.org
info@gaffi.org
[@gaffi_org](https://twitter.com/gaffi_org)

Rue de l'Ancien-Port 14
1211 Geneva 1
Switzerland

Jag Jugessur
jjugessur@gaffi.org

David Denning
ddenning@gaffi.org

HIDDEN CRISIS:

HOW 150 PEOPLE DIE EVERY HOUR FROM FUNGAL INFECTION WHILE THE WORLD TURNS A BLIND EYE

Fungal infections are silent killers, and cause misery to millions. More die of fungal diseases than either TB or malaria. After headaches and rotten teeth, skin fungal infections are the commonest diseases on Earth. Serious fungal infections afflict the most economically productive, especially in TB, AIDS and cancer patients, having a disproportionate impact on economies.

Necessary specialised diagnostic tests for fungal diseases are not done, or not available in most low and middle income countries. Doctors treat blind, or more commonly, not at all.

Well-established antifungal drugs are not available in many countries or are unaffordable.

Over 80% of patients could be saved if specialised diagnostics and antifungals were available everywhere, and used wisely by doctors.

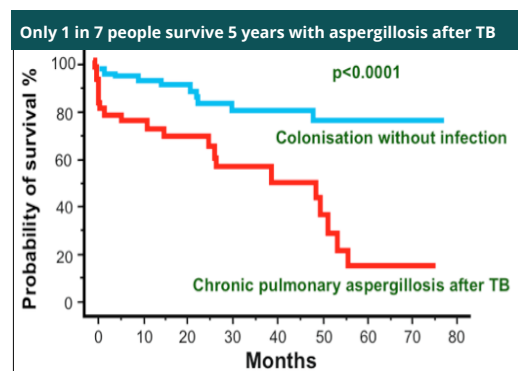


**DID
YOU
KNOW
?**

- WHO has no funded programs on fungal diseases
- The number of national surveillance programs on fungal infections is fewer than 10
- Specialised reference labs that provide key diagnostic tests and critical expertise in fungal infections are found in fewer than 20 countries
- We spend over \$8 billion on antifungal drugs each year

FACTS AND FIGURES

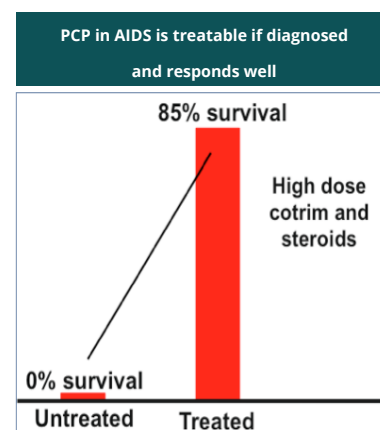
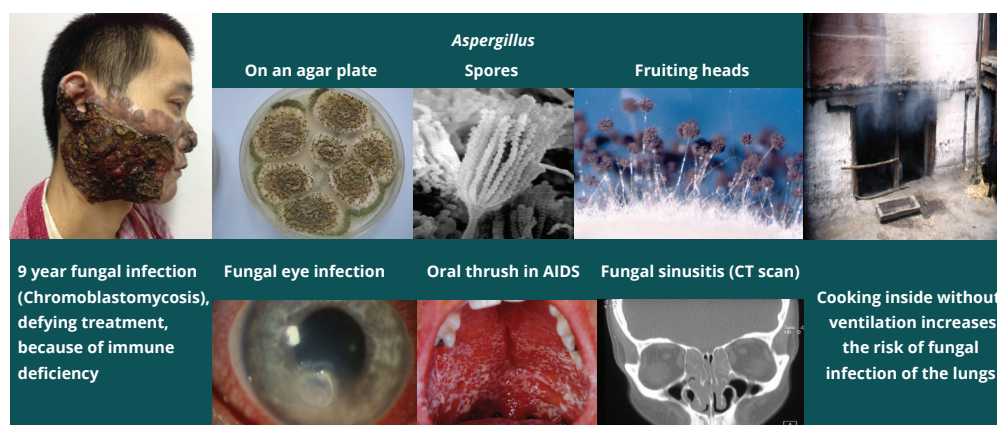
After TB about 10% of patients develop lung fungal infection, which slowly progresses to death over several years, unless arrested with treatment, an estimated burden of 1.2 million people worldwide. Fungal meningitis and pneumonia kills in excess of 1 million patients with AIDS every year, including many children, before treatment for HIV can begin to work.



Fungal infection	Annual burden	Case fatality rate	Estimated deaths
Cryptococcal meningitis	370,000	15-20% USA >50% developing world	>125,000
Pneumocystis pneumonia	>500,000	~15% in AIDS ~50% non-AIDS	>250,000
Invasive aspergillosis	>250,000	~50% mortality if treated	>125,000
Invasive candidiasis	>700,000	~45% mortality treated	>350,000
Chronic pulmonary aspergillosis	~3 million	~15% mortality in developed world	>450,000
Disseminated histoplasmosis	>100,000	>30% in AIDS, if diagnosed	>80,000
Severe asthma with fungal sensitization (SAFS)	~10 million	>1% but no good figures	~350,000 asthma deaths -- ~50% related to SAFS
Total	>14.9 million		>1.7 million

Blindness caused by fungal infection of the eye affects over 1 million adults and children globally because the tools are not available for rapid diagnosis and treatment. Skin fungal infections affect a billion people worldwide. Severe asthma with fungal allergy probably contributes to half of the 350,000 deaths from asthma each year, yet it is treatable with antifungal drugs.

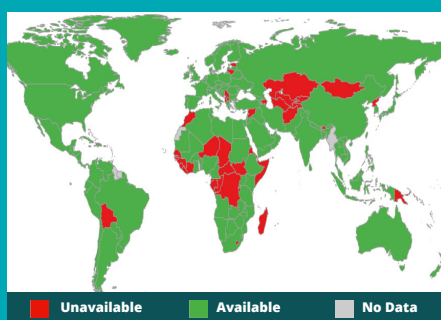
Professor Denning explains: "This is a global catastrophe on an unappreciated scale. While the World Health Organisation has just developed clinical guidelines for doctors for fungal meningitis in AIDS, other critical fungal infections are ignored. The lack of basic fungal diagnostic capability and unavailable treatments in many countries results in millions of avoidable deaths and illness. GAFFI is here to change this dismal situation."



OUR SUCCESSES

Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Czech Republic, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Madagascar, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Qatar, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, UK, Ukraine, Uruguay, Venezuela, Vietnam, Zambia. Other countries are ongoing.

Amphotericin B availability



In a coalition with other agencies including US Centers for Disease Control, attendees from LIFE, WHO, Medicines Sans Frontieres (MSF), Clinton Health Access Initiative and numerous universities and public health institutions, GAFFI successfully lobbied WHO to place amphotericin B and flucytosine on the Essential Medicines List to treat cryptococcal meningitis and other life-threatening fungal infections.

GAFFI is implementing a national 'Fungal Diseases' development plan in Kenya through its 8 referral hospitals and a national plan in fungal infections in AIDS in Guatemala as demonstration sites.

GAFFI has issued a 10 year Roadmap calling for 95% of the world's population to have access to fungal diagnostic tests and antifungal drugs by 2025 - <http://www.gaffi.org/roadmap/>

95/95
BY 2025

GAFFI IN THE NEWS



Professor DAVID DENNING
Professor of Infectious Diseases



MailOnline
Drying your washing indoors 'can pose serious health risk': Damp clothes help deadly spores breed, warn doctors



HorticultureWeek
Asthmatics alerted over spores threat



Fungal infections rampant in ICUs: Study



THE HINDU
Fungal infections no less lethal than TB, AU



Fungal infections no less lethal than TB, AU



GAFFI President delivers keynote speech in Montreal on global burden of human fungal diseases



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Schimmelinfecties: een onderschat probleem



Schimmelinfecties: een onderschat probleem

GAFFI recognises world AIDS day, by applying for Itraconazole to be included on Essential Medicines List
Posted December 1, 2014.
Pioneering health charity GAFFI is today calling on the World Health Organisation (WHO) to help hundreds of thousands of AIDS and HIV positive patients worldwide by including Itraconazole on the Essential Medicines List (EML).

GAFFI's application to the WHO, in collaboration with the International Foundation for Dermatology, pinpoints key fungal diseases in AIDS for which Itraconazole is crucial. Itraconazole suspension is ~70% effective for Itraconazole resistant oral thrush, and is the treatment of choice for oesophageal candidiasis, a debilitating, life threatening infection. Patients with Talaromycosis (formerly called penicilliosis) and common in SE Asia, also respond really well to Itraconazole, as do those with coccidioidomycosis and paracoccidioidomycosis in the Americas. Numerous skin fungal infections in adults and children with HIV infection are not adequately treated with the drug, griseofulvin, which remains on the EML.

FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS



UHSM Academy
Support of the chronic pulmonary aspergillosis following TB study in Gulu, Uganda and the Medical Mycology Masters



Fungal Infection Trust
Supporting patients and researchers



JYLAG
Supporting education, health and enabling research for the poorest communities



BIO Ventures for Global Health
Co-organisers of Global Fungal Infection Forum



Wellcome Trust
Global charitable foundation dedicated to achieving extraordinary improvements in human and animal health.



Burroughs Wellcome Fund
Advancing Biomedical Science by supporting research & education


Private Donors

RESEARCH PARTNERS NETWORKS AND SOCIETIES

Immy Ltd
Provision of research materials (LFA for cryptococcal antigen)




ISCA Ltd
Provision of research materials (LFA for Aspergillus antigen)



LIFE
For health professional education




International Society
for Human and Animal Mycology




Dynamiker
Provision of research materials (Aspergillus IgG antibody tests)




Virion\Serion
Provision of research materials (Aspergillus IgG antibody tests)



European Confederation of Medical Mycology




Healthcare Infection Society




Siemens Healthcare
Provision of research materials (Aspergillus IgG antibody tests)



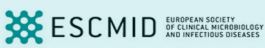
Omega Diagnostics
Provision of research materials



International Society for Infectious Diseases



European Society for Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases



OUR PEOPLE

Meet the people who together are the driving force behind GAFFI and are the true leaders behind making a difference to thousands of people's lives.



DAVID W. DENNING

FRCP FRCPath FMedSci

President, GAFFI
Professor of Infectious Diseases in Global Health,
University of Manchester
Director, National Aspergillosis Centre,
University Hospital of South Manchester, UK



RAMPERSAD (JAG) JUGESSUR

FCCA

Deputy Executive Director (Operations), GAFFI



JUAN LUIS RODRÍGUEZ TUDELA

MD PhD

Founder of the Medical Mycology Reference
Laboratory of Spain at the National Centre for
Microbiology of Instituto de Salud Carlos III



VICTOR RYDGREN

Vice President
Team Leader, Assessio Norge AS, Oslo,
Norway



ELIZABETH PEERS

Executive Advisor



MICHEL P. GLAUSER

Past President, Fondation Leenards, and
former chief Infectious Diseases University
Hospital, Lausanne, Switzerland



NIGEL LIGHTFOOT

Executive Director of Connecting
Organizations for Regional Disease
Surveillance (CORDS), Lyon, France



YASUAKI MORI

President of Infineon Technologies



JENNY BARTHOLOMEW

Communications Director combining
a research background with project
management and technical web skills

INSTITUTIONS

Federal University of São Paulo-
UNIFESP, São Paulo, Brasil



Centro Nacional de
Microbiología Madrid



The University of
Manchester, UK



The Public Health Research Institute
Newark, New Jersey, USA



St George's Hospital Medical School,
London, UK



Centre for Infectious Diseases and
Microbiology, University of Sydney, Australia



Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education &
Research, Chandigarh, Punjab, India

