

GAFFI in the news



NEW YORK POST

"In this battle of ours, another new challenge of black fungus has also emerged these days," Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted last week.

Mucormycosis has been described as a "serious complication of Covid-19" by Prof David Denning of the Global Action Fund for Fungal infections (GAFFI) and the University of Manchester.

INDEPENDENT

HIV-related cryptococcal meningitis could be averted
 Chief Executive of Global Action for Fungal Infections (Gaffi) and of the University of Manchester Professor David Denning said but if diagnosed early 70% survive
 ... optimally treated over

Times LIVE

Poor Diagnosis of Fungal Infections Ups Antibiotic Resistance

The Daily Star

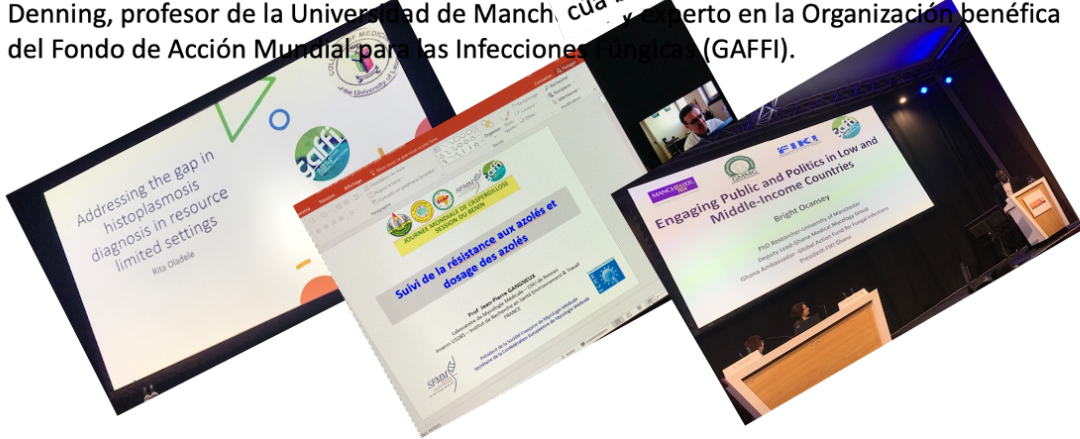
20 Successful Years of Publication

HÀNH TRÌNH TỪ TRÁI TIM
 Legend Giáo sư David Denning
 Toàn cầu về Nhiệm vụ
 ... nghiêm trọng

EXPANSION

"Se han reportado casos en varios otros país Francia, Austria, Brasil y México, pero el volu. Denning, profesor de la Universidad de Manch del Fondo de Acción Mundial para las Infecciones (GAFFI).

'Black fungus' complication adds to India's COVID woes



Annual Report 2021 – Executive Summary

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 BY 2025

Annual Report 2021



GAFFI's Vision is 'a world free of suffering and death from fungal disease'

GAFFI revised its strategy in 2020 and in 2021 added some quantifiable goals. GAFFI's high level objective is to ensure that WHO Essential Diagnostics and antifungal drugs are accessible to all, aligned to Universal Health Coverage.

To achieve these ends, GAFFI is **seeking strong partnerships** to further its mission, and make a genuine difference to the millions of people affected by fungal diseases.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During the years 2020 and 2021 there has been increased interest in fungal disease amongst the public and professionals. The second major wave of COVID-19 saw mucormycosis and aspergillosis complicating and antifungal resistance, notably *Candida auris* and a new species of skin fungus called *Trichophyton indotineae*, which are spreading and problematic. GAFFI has issued several Policy Briefs to summarise its views on how to improve access to diagnostics and antifungal therapy globally, and what measures need to be taken to address antifungal resistance.

- Deemed **Essential Diagnostics** by the WHO were *Pneumocystis* PCR to diagnose pneumonia, *Aspergillus* IgG antibody to diagnose chronic pulmonary aspergillosis and *Aspergillus* antigen to diagnose invasive aspergillosis and listed on the WHO's 3rd EDL.
- The WHO accepted inclusion of the 3 echinocandin antifungal drugs (micafungin, caspofungin and anidulafungin) onto the **Essential Medicine List**, following GAFFI's application, which is particularly important for life-threatening *Candida* infections, including the often resistant *Candida auris*.
- **Diagnostic Laboratory Hub in Guatemala:** As a result of GAFFI's project, initiated in late 2015, Guatemala now has the first Diagnostic Laboratory Hub specialised in mycology providing diagnostic services to HIV patients in Central America. From 2017-2019, overall mortality decreased from 34% to 27%. The number of TB diagnoses went down and survival increased by 14.9%, indicative of misdiagnosis of TB early in the programme. Histoplasmosis mortality fell from 32.8% in 2017 to 21.2% in 2019. The success of the programme is such that it has been adopted by the Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance and expanded. This programme provides a model for other countries, regions and population groups at risk.
- **Diagnostic survey capacity in Africa:** GAFFI has completed a survey of diagnostic procedures and laboratory testing for fungal disease in 50 African countries. This survey focusses on clinical procedures required for sampling (i.e., skin biopsy, bronchoscopy, lumbar puncture, imaging) and laboratory tests (i.e., antigen, microscopy and culture). The results are being assembled for publication and formatted in a major report.
- **Burden of Serious Fungal Diseases:** Six more country burden of fungal disease papers were published including Democratic Republic of Congo, Sierra Leone, Togo, Zimbabwe, Azerbaijan and Indonesia, for a total population of 400 million people.
- **Fungal NTDs:** New maps of chromoblastomycosis and sporotrichosis were published, combined with comprehensive literature reviews. A call for NTD recognition of talaromycosis was made on the basis of its lethal outcome in many patients with AIDS.
- **GAFFI's Ambassadors' activities:** Additional GAFFI Ambassadors were recruited for Sierra Leone, DRC, Malawi, Togo, Benin, Tunisia, Eswatini, Trinidad and Tobago and Vietnam. Multiple educational programmes and awareness have been delivered in multiple countries including Portugal, Indonesia, India, Nigeria, Cameroon, Ghana, Mali, Latin America, sub-Saharan Africa, Saudi Arabia and Vietnam.