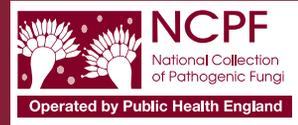


The National Collection of Pathogenic Fungi (NCPF)



The NCPF is the United Kingdom's only culture collection specialising in fungi pathogenic to humans and animals. Since its inception at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in 1946 the NCPF has been an integral part of the Mycology Reference Laboratory which is now situated in Bristol.

At present the collection holds over 4,500 strains of mould and yeast isolates of clinical significance from *Absidia spinosa* to *Zygowilliopsis californica*. Many of these can be accessed and purchased via the online catalogue.

The collection includes dermatophytes and related organisms from the UK and abroad from human and animal infections including many original type strains, mould strains from sub-cutaneous and deep-seated human and animal infection, pathogenic yeast strains and strains of dimorphic fungal pathogens.



Antifungal resistance: *Candida auris*

Candida auris is an emerging fungal pathogen which has been shown to have the ability to readily transfer between hospital patients setting it apart from the majority of *Candida* species.

The NCPF catalogue contains 21 isolates of *C. auris*

Recent type strain: *Phialemoniopsis hongkongensis* HKU39

This the type strain of a recently recognised dematiaceous mould species. Its susceptibility profile has been tested to further extend knowledge on the spectrum of activity of current antifungal agents.

NCPF catalogue number: 7868

Novel species: *Emarellia grisea* and *Emarellia paragrisea*

Following phylogenetic analyses of strains historically identified as *Madurella grisea*, two novel species have been identified which are responsible for causing black grain mycetoma.

The NCPF collection holds five isolates of *E. grisea* and one of *E. paragrisea*.



For more information about NCPF visit our website, or email us:

www.phe-culturecollections.org.uk/ncpf
CultureCollections.BusinessE@phe.gov.uk

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MRL Training Course - Identification of Pathogenic Fungi

Each July the Mycology Reference Laboratory, which houses NCPF, runs a course on the identification of pathogenic fungi. The four day course is designed for beginners and those with some experience in the identification of medically important fungi.

The isolates examined include a wide range of moulds and yeasts, with particular emphasis on dermatophytes and other organisms encountered in hospital microbiology laboratories. The course also includes a number of species featured in external quality assessment schemes.

For further information about the forthcoming course please contact the laboratory at the address below or email:

CultureCollections.BusinessE@phe.gov.uk

MRL also provides a range of associated services including:

- molecular strain typing studies
- classical and molecular taxonomic studies
- construction of antibiograms for developmental antifungal drugs

