

Burden of serious fungal infections in Romania

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The exact number of serious fungal infections in Romania is not known. Estimates based on the size of the population at risk and available epidemiological databases are feasible to indicate the national burden of these conditions. The estimated number of serious fungal infections in Romanian population was 413,514 in 2013. *Recurrent candida vaginitis*: from the total 20M population, 8.76M are adult women. Thus, the estimated incidence of infection is 3332.4/100,000, this equals 332,285 women annually. *HIV related infections*: There are 12,603 infected persons, 7934 being on antiretroviral therapy. Pneumocystis pneumonia occurred in less than 10% of late presenters (36 cases in 2013), while cryptococcal meningitis is rarely diagnosed (0.13% of AIDS patients). Oesophageal candidiasis occurs in 1331, oral thrush in 4202 HIV patients, annually. *Immunocompromised and cancer patient population*: The annual incidence of candidaemia is 299. At least 128 invasive aspergillosis cases and 4 mucormycosis cases occur yearly. *Critical care and surgical patients*: With 4,741 critical care beds and approximately 200,000 abdominal surgeries performed the estimated annual incidence of candidaemia and Candida peritonitis is 997 and 349, respectively. *Pulmonary tuberculosis and chronic lung conditions*: The annual incidence of TB cases is about 15,600 (2013). Thus the prevalence of post-TB chronic pulmonary aspergillosis is estimated to be 10.86/100,000 (2165 cases). The prevalence of COPD and asthma in adults is 1.7%, and 6.5%, respectively. Therefore, allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis prevalence is estimated at 29,535 and severe asthma with fungal sensitisation at 38,927 cases annually. *End stage renal disease*: from more than 1500 chronic ambulatory peritoneal dialysis patients the estimated incidence of fungal peritonitis is 50/year. Not being on the list of reportable infections the number of patients presenting with severe mycoses in Romania can only be roughly estimated. Even with these approximations up to 2% of the total population can be affected.