NOTES

STREPTOMYCIN TOLERANCE OF SAPROPHYTIC AND PATHOGENIC FUNGI

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Relatively little information is available concerning the effect of streptomycin on the growth of pathogenic fungi. During the course of an investigation of fungal culture media (reported elsewhere) it became necessary to test the growth of a number of saprophytic and pathogenic fungi on agar containing 30 units of streptomycin sulfate per ml (Winthrop, Cutter). It was observed that growth of the following fungi was found to be unaffected by the concentration of antibiotic employed: Blastomyces dermatitidis (2 strains), Blastomyces brasiliensis, Coccidioides immitis, Histoplasma capsulatum, Sporotrichum schenckii, Hormodendrum pedrosi, Hormodendrum compactum, Phialophora verrucosa, Cryptococcus neoformans, Candida albicans, Candida candida, Microsporum audouini, Microsporum canis, Microsporum gypseum, Trichophyton schoenleini, Trichophyton violaceum, Trichophyton rubrum, Trichophyton mentagrophytes, Epidermophyton floccosum, Monosporium apiospermum, Geotrichum sp., Penicillium expansum, Aspergillus herbariorum, Rhizopus nigricans, Neurospora sitophila, Fusarium, Alternaria, Cladosporium, Mucor mucedo.

Although the fungi listed above may possibly be inhibited by stronger concentrations of streptomycin, their tolerance to 30 units per ml in vitro indicates that systemic and cutaneous infections caused by the pathogenic species are not likely to respond well to clinical treatment with streptomycin.