

Two unlike cousins: *Candida albicans* and *C. glabrata* infection strategies.

Brunke S, Hube B (2013) Two unlike cousins: *Candida albicans* and *C. glabrata* infection strategies. *Cell Microbiol* 15(5), 701-708. (Review)

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Abstract

Candida albicans and *C. glabrata* are the two most common pathogenic yeasts of humans, yet they are phylogenetically, genetically and phenotypically very different. In this review, we compare and contrast the strategies of *C. albicans* and *C. glabrata* to attach to and invade into the host, obtain nutrients and evade the host immune response. Although their strategies share some basic concepts, they differ greatly in their outcome. While *C. albicans* follows an aggressive strategy to subvert the host response and to obtain nutrients for its survival, *C. glabrata* seems to have evolved a strategy which is based on stealth, evasion and persistence, without causing severe damage in murine models. However, both fungi are successful as commensals and as pathogens of humans. Understanding these strategies will help in finding novel ways to fight *Candida*, and fungal infections in general.

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