

Candidalysin: Discovery and function in *Candida albicans* infections.

Naglik JR, Gaffen SL, Hube B (2019) Candidalysin: Discovery and function in *Candida albicans* infections. *Curr Opin Microbiol* 52, 100-109. (Review)

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Abstract

Candidalysin is a cytolytic peptide toxin secreted by the invasive form of the human pathogenic fungus, *Candida albicans*. Candidalysin is critical for mucosal and systemic infections and is a key driver of host cell activation, neutrophil recruitment and Type 17 immunity. Candidalysin is regarded as the first true classical virulence factor of *C. albicans* but also triggers protective immune responses. This review will discuss how candidalysin was discovered, the mechanisms by which this peptide toxin contributes to *C. albicans* infections, and how its discovery has advanced our understanding of fungal pathogenesis and disease.

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