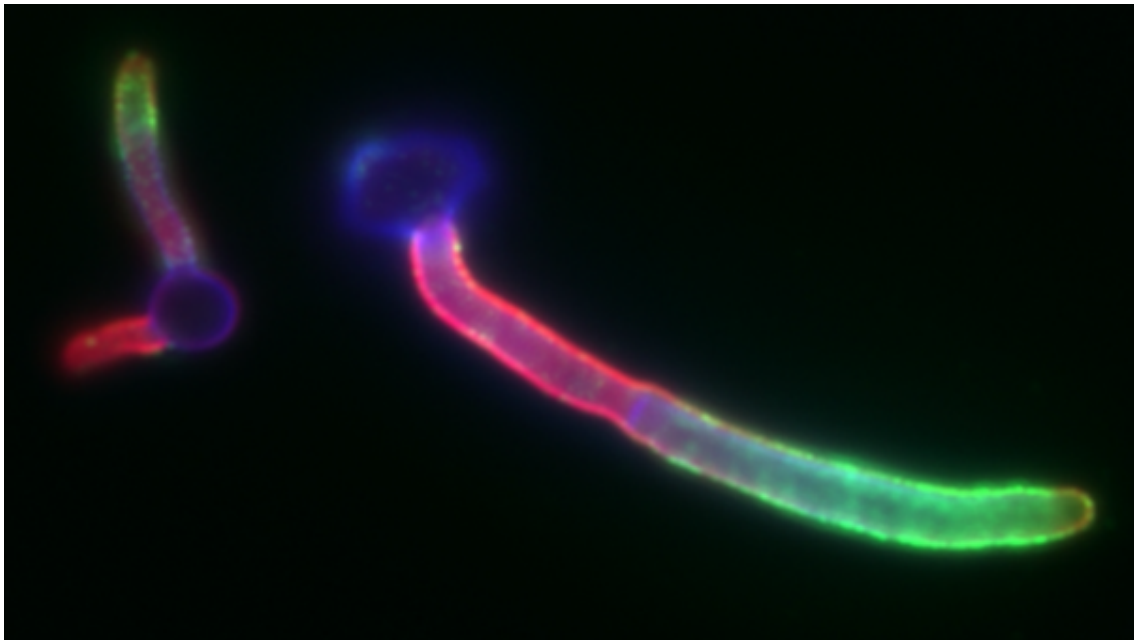


Adaptation to the host

The most common host-associated *Candida* species is *C. albicans*. In predisposed hospitalized patients, *Candida albicans* can translocate from its commensal niche, the intestine, to the bloodstream. This exchange of a commensal environment to an environment where *C. albicans* causes systemic disease is paired with a sudden exposure to host serum proteins and the inflammatory response. Similarly, *C. albicans* can cause infections at mucosal surfaces, which are associated with changes in physiology and particularly initiation of inflammation. The research group, therefore, studies how the encounter of host immune mediators and serum proteins drives fungal adaptations that permit survival in the host and immune evasion or escape.



Characterization of *C. albicans* cell-wall remodeling and filamentation in response to human proteins.

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