

***Candida* survival strategies.**

Polke M, Hube B, Jacobsen ID (2015) *Candida* survival strategies. *Adv Appl Microbiol* 91, 139-235.

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Abstract

Only few *Candida* species, e.g., *Candida albicans*, *Candida glabrata*, *Candida dubliniensis*, and *Candida parapsilosis*, are successful colonizers of a human host. Under certain circumstances these species can cause infections ranging from superficial to life-threatening disseminated candidiasis. The success of *C. albicans*, the most prevalent and best studied *Candida* species, as both commensal and human pathogen depends on its genetic, biochemical, and morphological flexibility which facilitates adaptation to a wide range of host niches. In addition, formation of biofilms provides additional protection from adverse environmental conditions. Furthermore, in many host niches *Candida* cells coexist with members of the human microbiome. The resulting fungal-bacterial interactions have a major influence on the success of *C. albicans* as commensal and also influence disease development and outcome. In this chapter, we review the current knowledge of important survival strategies of *Candida* spp., focusing on fundamental fitness and virulence traits of *C. albicans*.

Involved units

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