

DERMATOPHYTE FUNGI CONTAMINATIONS IN 16 PUBLIC BATHROOMS IN GOLPAYEGAN, IRAN

Novrouzi H, Alavi SB, Gerami Shoar M, Behzadi E, Behzadi P, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran

It has been established that bathrooms contribute to the spread of dermatophytosis in susceptible hosts. The recent studies indicate that, the infection of dermatophytosis is increasing in different cities of Iran, but the species of fungus agent in each city is different. The fungal contamination of 16 indoor public bathrooms was investigated by the method of carpet sampling. 224 samples from the floor, slippers, dressing rooms and related areas of each bathroom were tested for the presence of dermatophyte fungi in different places of the city. In this investigation, different dermatophytes such as *Trichopyton rubrum* and *Trichophyton mentagrophytes* were observed in very low level, but the most common dermatophyte recovered was *Microsporum gypseum*. *M.gypseum* is a geophilic dermatophyte and it seems that, the reason of high spreading level of this fungus in this city, is because of materials that are used in bathroom buildings (clay and straw) and special climate condition of Golpayegan. The fungal contamination of these bathrooms under specific conditions could be an alarm for induction of dermatophytosis in compromised and susceptible hosts.