

INFECTIONS DUE TO SCEDOSPORIUM SPECIES IN AN ACADEMIC HOSPITAL IN BONN, GERMANY

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Two *Scedosporium* species are known to cause opportunistic infections in humans: *Scedosporium apiospermum* (teleomorph: *Pseudallescheria boydii*) and *S. prolificans* (teleomorph: unknown). Both species occur world-wide in agricultural soil and in polluted water and sewage. Clinical manifestations of scedosporioses have a broad spectrum from subcutaneous to disseminated diseases. Due to multi-drug resistance, treatment possibilities are insufficient. This often leads to the death of patients with systemic scedosporiosis. Presently, complete surgical resection (if possible) combined with antimycotic therapy (itraconazole or voriconazole and terbinafine) seems to be the treatment of choice. Herewith, we give an overview of six cases of scedosporiosis diagnosed in Bonn between 1998 and 2002. All cases were confirmed by repeated isolation of the fungi from primarily sterile specimens and/or by histopathology. The species identification were confirmed by ITS rDNA-sequencing.

Species	Age	Sex	Underlying Diseases	Surgery	Site of Proven Fungal Infection	Antifungal Drug Used	Duration of Infection	Outcome
<i>Scedosporium apiospermum</i>	1	m	near drowning* ¹	some of the cerebral lesions	1. brain, focal lesions & meningitis	1. voriconazole 2. & terbinafine 3. & caspofungin	since 16 months	ongoing disease
	72	f	glucocort.* ²	none	1. lungs, focal lesions	1. itraconazole	7 weeks	died
	24	m	accident* ³	multiple wound resections, leg	1. leg, mycetoma	1. itraconazole	6 months	cured
	33	m	accident* ³ drug abuse	1. multiple wound resections, leg 2. cerebral lesion	1. foot, mycetoma 2. brain, focal lesions	1. itraconazole 2. voriconazole 3. voriconazole & terbinafine	3 months	died
<i>Scedosporium prolificans</i>	40	m	AML	none	1. blood, sepsis	1. amphotericin B	5 days	died
	61	f	glucocort.* ²	none	1. lungs, pneumonia 2. blood, sepsis	1. amphotericin B	10 days	died

*¹ Status after rescuing from drowning; *² Disease with long-term systemic glucocorticoid treatment;

*³ Traumatic fungal inoculation, e.g. caused by contaminated soil