

Awareness about Otomycosis in Biotechnology Students in Bahauddin Zakariya University

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Abstract

The objective of the present study was to assess knowledge about Otomycosis, a serious fungal disease of ear. It is characterized by pain and loss of hair. *Aspergillus niger* and *Candida fungus* are causative agents of otomycosis. Otomycosis can easily be diagnosed. Home remedies and ear drops containing medicine are used for the treatment of otomycosis. Otomycosis is a fungus disease, not viral infection or bacterial. It may be transmitted from one person to another through contact. It is not a genetic disease so it can't transmit from parents to offspring. Otomycosis required treatment. It was concluded from the present study that most of the students were familiar with the disease.

Keywords: Otomycosis; Fungus infection; Ear drops

Introduction

Otomycosis is a fungus infection that infects the ears. People living in tropical areas and warm condition can mostly affected by this disease. Otomycosis can also mostly affect the diabetic person and regularly swimming person. This disease is characterized by the inflammation, pain, hair loss, swelling ear redness, and narrow ear surface. Outer ear surface is mostly affected part of the body by this disease. *Aspergillus niger* and *Candida fungus* are causative agents of otomycosis [1-12]. Otomycosis occur due to unbalance concentration of acid and lipid in ear. Depending on infection, it is two types acute and sub-acute. Otomycosis affected mostly males as compared to female. With help of microscope and preparing fungus culture otomycosis infection can easily be diagnosed. Doctor can also diagnose otomycosis with help of otoscope. Doctor can take fluid from the ear and observe under the microscope can told whether it is fungus infection or not. Home remedies, ear drops and cleaning containing medicine can be used to treat the otomycosis disease. Doctor can clean infected ear by using rinses and other methods that slow down fungus infection. Otomycosis infection can also controlled by the antifungal drugs. Excessive use of antibiotics eardrops can reduce the fungus infection. *Aspergillus* and *Candidatus* are isolated from otomycosis patients. By using otoscope with help of microscope, otomycosis can be diagnosed. Antifungal drugs such as miconazole and bifonazole are used to treat the fungus infection. Ear infection can also be fined by clinical examination [1,2].

Objective

The objective of the present study was to assess knowledge about Otomycosis [5-9].

Methods and Materials

In this project, a questionnaire was prepared (Tables 1-4).

Results

In this project we collected information from different people about otomycosis. We observed that it is a fungal disease. About 91.66% males know that it is a fungal disease and only a few males told that it was not a fungal disease. We observed that mostly people recognized it was not a genetic diseases and it can't transfer from parents to offspring. About 91.66% male and 97.56%female recognized that it was not a metabolic disease. Otomycosis is not transferred through contact or blood decantation recognized by the75% male and only 25% male recognized that it was transferred through contact or blood decantation. Medicines can be used to treat this infection recognized by the 91.66% male and only a few 8.33% males recognized that it was not treated by the medicines. Mostly people recognized that surgery is not required to treat this disease (Tables 5-8).

Discussion

Infection rate of otomycosis is greater in tropical countries. Otomycosis can be diagnosed on the base of symptom and laboratory work. Otomycosis occur due to presence of high humidity and heat.

Table 1: Questionnaire to assess awareness about Otomycosis.

Otomycosis	Yes	No
Fungal disease		
Bacterial disease		
Viral disease		
Metabolic disease		
Genetic disease		

Table 2: Questionnaire to analyze awareness about ubiquity of otomycosis.

Ever sustain from otomycosis	Yes	No
You		
Your family member		
Your relative		
Your neighbor		
Your friend		

Table 3: Questionnaire to estimate vision about otomycosis.

Otomycosis disseminated by	Yes	No
Contact or blood decantation		
From parents to progeny		

Table 4: Questionnaire to evaluate perspective about hope for otomycosis

Otomycosis may be medicated by	Yes	No
Medicines		
Surgery		
No need of treatment		

People that work in a dusty environment are more victims to the otomycosis. Cleaning of ear with contaminated finger tips can cause the inoculation of spores in the ear. Some people prefer self medication before going to physician and use many antibiotics that remove beneficial bacteria from the ear and encourage the growth of fungus in the ear. Fungus in the ear can be confirmed by ear swabs. *Aspergillus* and *Candida* species were isolated from fungus ear infection [3,4]. Otomycosis is a fungus disease, not viral infection or bacterial. It may be transmitted from one person to another through contact. It is not a genetic disease so it can't transmit from parents to offspring. Medicines can be used to treat this infection. Otomycosis required treatment.

Conclusion

It was concluded from the present study that most of the students were familiar with the disease.

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Table 5: Questionnaire to assess awareness about otomycosis.

	Male		Female	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Is its viral disease?	91.66%	8.33%	0.00%	100%
Is bacterial disease?	0.00%	100%	0.00%	100%
Is it Fungal disease?	91.66%	8.33%	100%	0.00%
Is it Genetic disease?	8.33%	91.66%	0.00%	100%
Is it Metabolic diseases?	8.33%	91.66%	2.43%	97.56%

Table 6: Questionnaire to analyze awareness about ubiquity of otomycosis.

Ever suffered from fungal ear infection	Male		Female	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Are you?	8.33%	91.66%	0.00%	100%
Ever your family?	8.33%	91.66%	0.00%	100%
Ever your relative?	33.33%	66.66%	0.00%	100%
Ever your neighbor?	58.33%	41.66%	29.26%	70.32%
Ever your friend?	0.00%	100%	0.00%	100%

Table 7: Questionnaire to evaluate perspective about hope for Otomycosis.

Otomycosis infection transmission	Male		Female	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Through blood?	25%	75%	7.31%	92.68%
Can be transmitted from parent to offspring?	16.66%	83.33%	0.00%	100%

Table 8: Questionnaire to assess awareness about otomycosis.

Otomycosis infection cured by?	Male		Female	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
By medicines?	91.66%	8.33%	90.24%	9.75%
By surgery?	8.33%	91.66%	0.00%	100%
Can be cured or not?	0.00%	100%	0.00%	100%

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