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KEY WORD: CYANOACRYLATE SKIN SURFACE STRIPPING/ TAPE METHOD/ *PITYROSPORUM* YEASTS
PHONGSAKORN WESSAGOWIT : QUANTITATIVE CULTURE OF PITYROSPORUM YEASTS IN PATIENT WITH PITYRIASIS VERSICOLOR BY USING CYANOACRYLATE SKIN SURFACE STRIPPING COMPARE WITH "TAPE METHOD" TECHNIQUE. THESIS ADVISOR : ASSO. PROF. WIWAT KORKIJ, M.D. 44 PP. ISBN 974-634-978-3

The study is to compare the quantitative skin cultures of pityrosporum yeasts obtained by cyanoacrylate skin surface stripping (CSSS) to "tape method".

Samples for culture were taken from the skin by cyanoacrylate skin surface stripping (CSSS) technique. Each CSSS sample was placed over a drop of sterile olive oil (which was pipetted) on each sabouraud medium. The plates were incubated at 37°c for 7 days, after which the numbers of pityrosporum colonies growing under the csss were counted.

The mean numbers of pityrosporum colonies by CSSS method was 284.91, which was greater than 251.91 obtained by the tape method. The result was not statistically significant using wilcoxon-matched pairs signed-ranks test. In this study, there were two problems using tape method, i.e., the rolling and turbidity of the tape. When culture-negative cases were excluded, the mean colonies by csss was 276.67 which was less than 288.67 obtained by tape method, albeit the result was not statistically significant using wilcoxon-matched pairs signed-ranks test.

Comparing diagnostic technique by using 20 colonies to clarify the positivity of test. The culture method using CSSS was positive in 55 cases, which exceeded 48 cases obtained via tape method. These yields were compared using mcnemar test and the result was statistically significant. The results from both methods were assessed for agreement employing kappa statistics. The kappa value from this study was 0.7556, which represented excellent agreement beyond chance.

This study shows that the quantitative skin cultures of pityrosporum yeasts using csss is superior to that of the tape method. This study may be used as a prototype for pityrosporum yeast culture in diseases other than pityriasis versicolor, especially the ones in which the pathology are deeper in the skin.

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