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Issued by: LABORATORY MANAGER	Original Date: March 22, 2001	
Approved by: Laboratory Director	Revision Date:	

APPENDIX I

CONVERSION (Converting Mycelial Phase of Dimorphic Mould to a Yeast Phase)

I. Purpose

To be used only for suspected *Sporothrix schenckii* and *Blastomyces dermatitidis*. Send all other suspected dimorphic fungi to the Public Health Laboratory for identification and/or confirmation.

II. Procedure

1. Transfer a large inoculum of the filamentous culture onto the surface of a fresh, moist slant of Brain Heart Infusion Agar (BHIA). If the slant is dry, add 0.5 ml sterile distilled water before inoculation.
2. Incubate culture at 37⁰C.
3. Examine daily for the presence of yeast-like, creamy colonies.

NB: It is not necessary for the whole culture to convert. *S. schenckii* usually converts rapidly to the yeast phase without the need for further 37⁰C subcultures.

4. Confirm the presence of any yeast forms by LPAB tease prep (Refer to Lactophenol Analine Blue (LPAB) procedure in the Staining Methods).

III. Reference

Koneman, E.W., et al. 1997. Color Atlas and Textbook of Diagnostic Microbiology, 5th edition. J.B. Lippincott.