



GUÍAS DE PRÁCTICA CLÍNICA

Section 3. Colombian consensus on the diagnosis and treatment of extrapulmonary aspergillosis in adult patients*

* From the Colombian Association of Infectious Diseases (ACIN) Mycosis Group, for the Development of the Colombian Consensus on the Management of Invasive Fungal Disease

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Abstract

The clinical manifestations of *Aspergillus* spp. associated diseases are variable and depend on the interaction between the inoculating dose (which is not known and probably varies widely), the patient's ability to resist infection at both local and systemic level, and the virulence of the etiologic agent. The major difficulty in establishing a clinical classification scheme lies in the existence of a broad and continuous spectrum of disease, associated with a complicated diagnosis and clinical management. An IA can present as a localized infection in one organ, or as part of a disseminated infection, which presents itself in a varied spectrum of clinical pictures. However, no clinical trials have been completed to evaluate the different specific therapeutic approaches according to the type of involvement in these patients. The most common clinical forms of invasive aspergillosis (IA) occur in the lung and paranasal sinuses, chronic pulmonary aspergillosis (CPA) can be complicated by spreading to contiguous structures such as the pleural space, pericardium, chest wall and mediastinal structures such as the esophagus and great vessels. It frequently spreads beyond the respiratory tract, and can affect the skin, CNS, eyes, liver, kidneys and other structures.

Keywords: aspergillosis; Aspergillus; guidelines; invasive aspergillosis; Aspergillus diagnosis; voriconazole; posaconazole; isavuconazole; caspofungin; micafungin; anidulafungin; amphotericin B; extra pulmonary aspergillosis; central nervous system; endocarditis; sinusitis; osteomyelitis; endophthalmitis.

Sección 3. Consenso colombiano para el diagnóstico y tratamiento la aspergilosis extrapulmonar en pacientes adultos*

*Del Grupo de Micosis de la ACIN, para el Desarrollo del Consenso Colombiano para el Manejo de la Enfermedad Fúngica Invasora

Resumen

Las manifestaciones clínicas de las enfermedades asociadas con *Aspergillus* spp. son variables y dependen de la interacción entre la dosis de inoculación (que se desconoce y probablemente varía ampliamente), la capacidad del paciente para resistir la infección a nivel local y sistémico, y la virulencia del agente etiológico, donde la mayor dificultad para establecer un esquema de clasificación clínica radica en la existencia de un espectro amplio y continuo de enfermedad, asociado a un diagnóstico y manejo clínico complicado. Una aspergilosis invasiva (AI) puede presentarse como una infección localizada en un órgano, o como parte de una infección diseminada, que se presentan en un variado espectro de cuadros clínicos, sin embargo, no se han completado ensayos clínicos que evalúen los diferentes abordajes terapéuticos específicos, de acuerdo al tipo de compromiso en estos pacientes. Las formas clínicas más comunes de AI tienen lugar a nivel de pulmón y de senos paranasales, una aspergilosis pulmonar crónica (APC) puede complicarse al extenderse a estructuras contiguas como el espacio pleural, el pericardio, la pared torácica y las estructuras mediastínicas como el esófago y los grandes vasos. La capacidad de diseminación más allá del tracto respiratorio es frecuente, y puede comprometer afectar piel, SNC, ojos, hígado, riñones y otras estructuras.

Palabras clave: aspergilosis; Aspergillus; guias de práctica clínica; aspergilosis invasiva; diagnostico de Aspergillus; voriconazol; posaconazol; isavuconazol; caspofungina; micafungina; anidulafungina; anfotericina B; aspergilosis extra pulmonar; Sistema nervioso central; endocarditis; sinusitis; osteomielitis; endoftalmitis.

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Introduction

The clinical manifestations of Aspergillus spp. associated diseases are variable and depend on the interaction between the inoculating dose (which is not known and probably varies widely), the patient's ability to resist infection at both local and systemic level, and the virulence of the etiologic agent. The major difficulty in establishing a clinical classification scheme lies in the existence of a broad and continuous spectrum of disease, associated with a complicated diagnosis and clinical management^{1–11,14–49,58–118}. An invasive aspergillosis (IA) can present as a localized infection in one organ, or as part of a disseminated infection, which presents itself in a varied spectrum of clinical pictures. However, no clinical trials have been completed to evaluate the different specific therapeutic approaches according to the type of involvement in these patients^{3,21,76}. The most common clinical forms of IA occur in the lung and paranasal sinuses^{62,64,116–118}, chronic pulmonary aspergillosis (CPA) can be complicated by spreading to contiguous structures such as the pleural space, pericardium, chest wall and mediastinal structures such as the esophagus and great vessels^{3,49,69}. It frequently spreads beyond the respiratory tract, and can affect the skin, CNS, eyes, liver, kidneys and other structures^{20,61,62,90,118–120}.

Most definitions covering disseminated aspergillosis require the demonstration of *Aspergillus* spp. in two or more noncontiguous compromised sites, with the assumption of en-

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dovascular or bloodstream infection implicated in the pathogenesis^{20,49,65,119–123}, which must be differentiated from local dissemination or extension through tissue planes (e.g., sinus aspergillosis with direct extension to the meninges and brain)^{61,63,90}, from multifocal disease within an organ, and from situations where there is more than one site of infection within the organ (e.g., IPA and tracheobronchial aspergillosis)^{20,49}. However, infection at two primary sites where it is assumed that infection is initiated simultaneously (e.g., concomitant acute invasive sinusitis and IPA) should probably not be considered as disseminated disease^{3,20,21,49}.

 Table 1. Scale for measuring the quality of evidence and strength of recommendations.

Quality of evidence			
High (i)	The probability that the results will change is minimal.		
Moderate (ii)	Results may change over time, but will not change dramatically.		
Low (i)	The results can definitely change over time.		
Strength of recommendation			
Strong	It is recommended to implement this recommendation in daily clinical practice.		
Weak	It is recommended that before implementing this recommendation, the risks and benefits to the patient, as well as the costs or utilization of health resources, be evaluated.		

Adapted from: Andrews JC et al.¹²

From a practical point of view, the diagnosis of extrapulmonary aspergillosis poses a number of difficulties related to the use of diagnostic tools, since the revised EORTC/MSG (European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer/ Mycoses Study Group) criteria⁶⁵, specifically state that, in the case of suspected disease, the site from which clinical samples should be taken should be related to the region of tissue damage (defined clinically and radiologically), but that this is not feasible in many cases (e.g., CNS aspergillosis)^{21,69,76}. Finally, proven disseminated aspergillosis has been defined as proven/probable IA at two noncontiguous involved sites (e.g., pulmonary and cutaneous disease), and probable disseminated aspergillosis has been defined as a proven/probable IA at one involved site, but with evidence of tissue damage at a noncontiguous (usually sterile) site, that is compatible with an IA (with evidence of invasive disease), but without diagnostic evidence for the involved site^{3,21,45,49,58–99}.

A detailed description of the background, methods and potential conflicts of interest can be found in the Section 1 "Colombian Consensus on the Diagnosis and Follow-Up of Invasive Aspergillosis and Aspergillus Disease in Adult and Pediatric Patients". Summarized below are the recommendations for the diagnosis and treatment of extrapulmonary aspergillosis. To assess the quality of the evidence and the strength of the recommendations, the modified GRADE methodology^{12,13} was used. It assigns each recommendation with separate ratings for the underlying quality of the evidence supporting the recommendation, and for the strength with which the recommendation is made, establishing the following levels of evidence: LOW (III): results may definitely change over time; MODERATE (II): results may change over time, but will not change dramatically; HIGH (I): the likelihood that the results will change is minimal. The strength of the recommendation (STRONG OR WEAK) was evaluated taking into account the balance between benefits and risks, quality of evidence, patient values and preferences, and cost or resource utilization (Table 1)50-57

QUESTIONS:

1. In an adult patient with sinus involvement, how is the diagnostic approach for acute/chronic invasive *Aspergillus* spp. sinusitis?

Recommendation

1. In an adult patient with sinus involvement, the consensus recommends performing the diagnostic approach for acute/chronic invasive Aspergillus spp. sinusitis by (a) histo-pathology and/or culture positive for Aspergillus spp. from sinus biopsy and/or sinus aspirate material, and/or contiguous site (e.g., orbit, brain) (b) positive PCR-DNA detection test from sinus biopsy, (c) positive Aspergillus galactomannan antigen (AGA) test from serum (x2), and (d) abnormal computed tomography (CT) findings (e.g., sinus opacifica-

tion, evidence of erosion of bone structures, and/or destruction of contiguous structures). (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-up of IA/ Aspergillus Disease) (Table 2, Annex 1)^{45,49,58-73}.

a. In an adult patient diagnosed with acute/chronic invasive *Aspergillus* spp. sinusitis, what is recommended in order to choose the type of drug, the dosage and the duration of antifungal treatment?

- In a patient diagnosed with acute/chronic invasive Aspergillus spp. sinusitis the consensus recommends evaluating the degree of invasion and/or dissemination. (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence)^{3,49,65}.
- In an immunocompromised patient diagnosed with acute/chronic invasive Aspergillus spp. sinusitis it is recommended to initiate primary targeted antifungal therapy. (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence)³.
- 4. In a patient diagnosed with acute/chronic invasive Aspergillus spp. sinusitis the consensus recommends VCZ (intravenously [IV.], 6 mg/kg/12h, day 1, then 4 mg/kg/12h) as the first antifungal treatment option. Therapeutic monitoring of antifungal drugs (TMD) is recommended to improve antifungal efficacy, evaluate therapeutic failure and decrease drug toxicity. (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-up of IA/Aspergillus Disease [TDM in the therapeutic management of IA/Aspergillus Disease]) (Tables 3 and 4)^{3,21,59,60,62,74-76}.
- L-AmB (IV., 3-5 mg/kg/d), and ISZ (IV., 200 mg/8h, day 1-2, then 200 mg/d), are an alternative antifungal treatment in a patient diagnosed with acute/chronic invasive Aspergillus spp. sinusitiss. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (Table 4)^{3,62,74,77-79}.
- An echinocandin (IV., CAS [70 mg, day 1, then 50 mg/d], MCF [100 mg/d]), LC-AmB (IV., 5 mg/kg/d), PCZ (IV., 300 mg/12h, day 1, then 300 mg/d), or ITZ (IV., 200 mg/12h, day 1-2, then 200 mg/d.) may be considered for salvage antifungal therapy in a patient diagnosed with acute/chronic invasive Aspergillus spp. sinusitis. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (II Prophylaxis, Treatment and Prevention of IA in Adult and Pediatric Patients) [approach to the therapeutic management of refractory/progressive aspergillosis]) (Table 4)^{3,80-85}.
- The consensus does not recommend in a patient diagnosed with acute/chronic invasive Aspergillus spp. sinusitis the initiation of antifungal treatment by washing with topical AmB solutions. (strong recommendation, highquality evidence)³.
- 8. It is considered that in a patient diagnosed with acute/chronic invasive Aspergillus spp. sinusitis, the duration of antifungal treatment should be established on an individual basis, and should last a minimum of 6-8 weeks. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence)^{3,21}.

Table 2. Pathological and imaging findings in diseases caused by Aspergillus spp.

	Aspergillosis of the lo	ower respiratory tract
	Pathological findings	Imaging findings
IPA (angioinvasive)	Evidence of tissue plane disruption and vascular invasion by adhesion of surface components of fungal structures (including vascular wall components, basement membrane, extracellular matrix, and cellular constituents), associated with coagulative necrosis and hemorrhagic infarction. Fungal lesion (or fungal sequestration) and areas of distal wedge-shaped pulmonary infarction are manifestations of angioinvasion.	Imaging findings depend on the patient's characteristics, and a wide variety of nonspecific radiographic patterns may be present. X-ray may show peripheral opacities (ill-defined, 1-3 cm, gradually merging into larger opacities) with or without cavitation. The opacities may increase in size and become necrotic in their central part, which reduces their density and favors air trapping, producing the "air-crescent sign"; such cavitation occurs after neutrophil recovery, which is a sign of good prognosis. An early but non-specific finding on CT is the presence of nodular opacities with a ground-glass border "halo sign" (reflecting hemorrhage and edema surrounding the lesion), also the presence of peripheral opacities by complete alveolar occupation, wedge-shaped with a base towards the pleura which, in the appropriate clinical setting, are highly suggestive of angioinvasive aspergillosis. On multislice CT, a budding tree pattern can be seen. Pleural effusion and mediastinal adenopathies are rare. Invasion of the chest wall or mediastinal pleura may occur.
IPA (non-angioinvasive)	There is no evidence of vascular invasion by the fungal structures, with the presence of a pyogranulomatous inflammatory infiltrate, inflammatory necrosis or cavitation (occasionally a mixed histologic picture may be observed).	Almost any radiologic pattern may be present. Nonspecific abnormalities may be evident, including airspace disease, single or multiple nodular infiltrates (with or without halo sign), segmental or subsegmental consolidation, diffuse ground-glass opacities or cavitation. CT allows a better definition of halo and crescent signs.
ABI	It is an invasive disease that mainly affects the large airways, (bronchoscopically accessible). It is classified as: <i>Aspergillus tracheobronchitis</i> , in which there is tracheobronchial inflammation, with a mucus exudate containing hyphal elements of <i>Aspergillus</i> spp. with no other identifiable pathogen. The inflammation is superficial, the mucosa is intact, without pseudomembrane formation, deep focal ulceration or other focal endobronchial abnormalities. <i>Pseudomembranous tracheobronchitis</i> , in which there is necrosis and detachment of the bronchial epithelium, together with formation of a pseudomembrane containing necrotic debris and hyphal elements. The depth of infection is variable and there is superficial invasion, which does not extend beyond the bronchial cartilage. <i>Ulcerative tracheobronchitis</i> , in which there are single or multiple, discretely abnormal focal areas with endobronchial plaques, nodules or areas of ulceration and necrosis. The depth of the ulcer varies, and may extend into the adjacent lung parenchyma and pulmonary vasculature.	Generally, imaging findings are normal, although X-ray and CT scan may show airway wall thickening, presence of patchy opacities or centrolobular nodules, atelectasis and/or lobar collapse.
	Aspergillosis of the u	pper respiratory tract
	Pathological findings	Imaging findings
Acute invasive sinusitis	There is evidence of an acute and relatively sparse inflammatory infiltrate, with tissue infiltration by hyphal elements, angioinvasion and coagulative necrosis. It is locally more invasive, causes bone destruction, spreads to adjacent soft tissues and invades the pterygopalatine fossa, cavernous sinus and intracranial cavity. With vascular invasion and hematogenous dissemination.	Initially, noncontrast CT shows low-density mucosal thickening or soft tissue attenuation within the paranasal cavity, with a predilection for unilateral involvement of the ethmoid and the sphenoid cell. Aggressive bone destruction of the sinus walls can be rapid, and is associated with intracranial and intra-orbital extension. Bone erosion and mucosal thickening is sometimes subtle, as these fungi tend to extend along the vessels; extension beyond the sinuses may occur with intact bone walls. Intracranial extension of the disease from the sphenoid sinus leads to thrombosis of the cavernous sinus and even invasion Severe unilateral thickening of the soft tissues of the nasal cavity is the earliest finding and the most consistent, although nonspecific, sign seen on CT. More extensive changes, such as inflammation of the periantral fat, erosion, and orbital or intracranial invasion are more specific but late and infrequent features. <i>MRI</i> is the imaging of choice to evaluate intracranial and intra-orbital extension, as it better characterizes inflammatory changes in the orbital fat, extraocular muscles and proptosis resulting from intra-orbital invasion. Obliteration of periantral fat is a subtle sign of such extension, and should be looked for in patients at risk. Leptomeningeal enhancement with intracranial invasion may be seen, which is subtle in the early stages of infection. With the progression of infection there may be adjacent cerebritis, granulomas and brain abscess formation. Intracranial granulomas are hypointense in T1 and T2, with minimal enhancement in the contrasted T1 sequence.
Chronic invasive sinusitis	Presence of a mass composed of friable, necrotic or purulent material, associated with a mixed cellular infiltrate, inflammatory necrosis and invasion of contiguous structures, such as the skull base, orbit and brain.	Noncontrast <i>CT</i> shows a pseudomass with hyper-attenuated (dense) soft tissue in one or more of the paranasal sinuses, with an infiltrative appearance (mimicking cancer) and destruction of the sinus walls, with extension beyond the paranasal cavities. <i>MRI</i> is preferred to evaluate the associated intracranial extension, which behaves isointense on T1 and hypointense on T2 and FLAIR, without diffusion restriction, with mottled appearance in the bone tissue due to irregular bone destruction.
Sinus aspergilloma	Presence of a fungus ball composed of cheesy and friable material and a conglomerate of hyphal elements in concentric circles. The antral mucosa is well preserved, with chronic non-granulomatous inflammatory response, and no evidence of bone erosion.	There is evidence of sinus opacification with one or more oval or rounded soft tissue dense images, called foreign bodies, concretions or antroliths, found centrally or towards the orifice of the antrum, without evidence of tissue invasion; there may be thickening or sclerosis of the sinus wall due to pressure, which may lead to necrosis.

Cardiovascular aspergillosis				
	Pathological findings	Imaging findings		
Native valve endocarditis	Presence of large friable vegetations, mural vegetations, extension to paravalvular structure and development of pancarditis. Embolic events in the main vessels, such as the aorta, iliac and femoral arteries, are characteristic.	Endocarditis may be occult or manifest as valvular vegetations on images. Right-sided vegetations on the tricuspid or pulmonary valves may indicate a venous source of the infection, which can cause pulmonary septic embolism. Vegetations on the mitral and aortic valves are symptomatic and can cause downstream arterial embolic effects such as stroke or visceral infarction. Despite their larger size (compared to that of bacterial origin), these vegetations are difficult to visualize at CT and MR imaging, unless gated cardiac examinations are performed, which improves the anatomical resolution of the images displayed in 4 Ch, 3 Ch and 2 Ch cine sequences. Approximately 78% of patients with <i>Aspergillus</i> endocarditis have demonstrable vegetations on transthoracic echocardiography.		
Prosthetic valve endocarditis	Probably associated with direct inoculation of fungal elements during surgery, or by seeding of the endocardium from the lungs in the perioperative period. There is evidence of vegetation causing prosthetic malfunction and valvular dehiscence.	Echocardiographic findings are non-specific, and include compromised mechanical valve function and seating, paravalvular leak and paravalvular abscess formation.		
Pericardial aspergillosis	It may arise by contiguous dissemination from the pleura or myocardium. There is evidence of fibrinous or exudative pericarditis, or contiguous IPA, or myocardial aspergillosis. <i>Postmortem</i> findings demonstrate patchy, diffuse pericarditis, or the presence of multiple raised nodules or plaques on one or both pericardial surfaces.	Pericardial aspergillosis is not a frequent <i>ante mortem</i> diagnosis, but should be suspected when a patient with IPA develops pericardial effusion (suspected clinically or seen on imaging), or there is other evidence of pericardial disease. There is echocardiographic evidence of pericardial disease, including pericardial effusion and signs of pericardial tamponade, with a widened cardiac silhouette on chest X-ray.		
	CNS Asp	ergillosis		
	Pathological findings	Imaging findings		
Cerebrovascular aspergillosis	Evidence of vessel invasion by scarce hyphal elements, cerebral infarction in vascular territory, necrosis and hemorrhagic transformation with little inflammatory response, without evidence of abscess or granuloma formation, and with contiguous involvement of the meninges.	The radiologic appearance is non-specific, and may be normal or near normal in the early stages of infection. CT and MRI features in a specific clinical setting may support the diagnosis. Imaging features include intraparenchymal and extraparenchymal (skull base) lesions with perilesional edema, basal meningeal enhancement, hydrocephalus and infarcts, with or without hemorrhage. In addition, imaging may provide evidence of concomitant pulmonary, sinus, orbital or mastoid involvement. Massive lesions may have a homogeneous enhancement (granuloma) or a peripheral ring (abscess). The presence of lesions at the base of the skull, with homogeneous enhancement associated with intrasinusal, orbital or mastoid lesions, suggest the diagnostic possibility of <i>Aspergillus</i> infection.		
Brain abscess	It may be the result of hematogenous seeding in the context of significant immunologic impairment. There is evidence of abscess formation, consisting of an area of central liquefactive necrosis in which hyphal elements are scarce or absent, and surrounded by an area of hemorrhagic necrosis with an acute inflammatory infiltrate interspersed with multiple hyphal elements.	<i>CT</i> or <i>MRI</i> shows single or multiple space-occupying lesions showing ring enhancement, mass effect or cerebral edema.		
Brain granuloma	There is evidence of a firm, rubbery or gritty mass, without suppuration, with florid granulomatous inflammation and fibrinous tissue interspersed with hyphal elements.	CT shows a space-occupying lesion. The MRI characteristic of <i>Aspergillus</i> granulomas, shows to be extremely hypointense on T2, and hypointense or isointense on T1.		
Fungal cerebral aneurysm	There is evidence of aneurysm formation in the intracranial artery, and invasion of the vessel wall by hyphal elements. The aneurysm may rupture or leak, which usually manifests as hemorrhage into the subarachnoid space.	In catheter angiographies and CT and MRI angiographies, aneurysms are usually fusiform, most often involving the proximal vasculature, such as internal carotid arteries and vessels forming the polygon of Willis. Intracranial hemorrhage may be a complication of vasculitis or fungal aneurysm formation, which appears hyperdense on non-contrast CT.		
Meningitis	Presence of a thick grayish-white membrane covering the brain, in cases of dissemination from sinuses; or of focal and contiguous meningitis in cases of cerebrovascular aspergillosis, with the formation of a cerebral abscess, meninges infiltrated by hyphal elements and inflammatory infiltrate. CSF shows neutrophil pleocytosis, elevated protein and low to normal glucose.	Radiologic abnormalities within the meninges are usually absent. MRI shows thick meningeal enhancement on T1-weighted images, particularly at the skull base. The presence of leptomeningeal enhancement is nonspecific, but nodularity may be more specific of a fungal infection.		
	Ocular asj	pergillosis		
	Pathological findings	Imaging findings		
Endogenous endophthalmitis	There is evidence of hyphal elements within the retinal and subretinal structures, with chorioretinal abscess formation, secondary vitritis, thrombosis and retinal vessel rupture, with retinal detachment. A fundus examination shows white, spongy preretinal lesions with deep creamy-white retinal lesions and intraretinal hemorrhages, with large wedge-shaped quadrants of pigmented and scarred chorioretinal atrophy.	A <i>fluorescein angiogram</i> shows hyperfluorescence of the preretinal granuloma and surrounding deep retinal lesions, with staining of the chorioretinal scars, focal vasculitis and leakage of the involved vessels. <i>Ocular ultrasound</i> shows dense opacities in the vitreous chamber for vitritis, thickening of the retinochoroidal layer due to subretinal exudative lesions, pre and intraretinal hemorrhages, preretinal layering of exudates that lead to epiretinal membranes and retinal detachment.		
Exogenous endophthalmitis	It is due to direct inoculation of viable organisms, which may be accidental or iatrogenic, after penetrating ocular wounds or cataract surgery. Ocular abnormalities are not necessarily limited to the posterior globe.	Ocular ultrasound may reveal intraocular abnormalities.		

Scleritis	Infiltration of the sclera by hyphal elements is more common in the setting of recent surgery, accidental or traumatic injury, or may be due to hematogenous seeding.	Diagnostic imaging is not usually performed.			
Keratitis	Situations in which the integrity of the cornea is altered, such as surgery, trauma or use of contact lenses. It presents with stromal infiltrate, stromal abscess formation, invasion by hyphal elements and coagulative necrosis.	Diagnostic imaging is not usually performed.			
	Cutaneous o	aspergillosis			
	Pathological findings	Imaging findings			
Primary cutaneous aspergillosis	There is evidence of significant local tissue destruction, spread to contiguous structures and disseminated infection, where it may be difficult to determine whether hyphal elements are found on the surface, or involve deeper structures.	Diagnostic imaging is not usually performed. Diagnosis is made by histopathology and culture.			
Secondary cutaneous aspergillosis	There is evidence that cutaneous involvement is due to hematogenous seeding.	Diagnostic imaging is not usually performed. Diagnosis is made by histopathology and culture.			
	Osteoarticula	r aspergillosis			
	Pathological findings	Imaging findings			
Osteomyelitis	It can occur by direct traumatic or iatrogenic inoculation, dissemination from contiguous structures or hematogenous seeding.	Fungal lesions can be seen on simple X-ray, CT and MRI, and may be helpful in stratifying and guiding needle biopsy of the lesion. The imaging features of infections are often nonspecific and difficult to differentiate from findings due to pyogenic infections or other causes of inflammatory arthropathy. CT findings include bone destruction, mixed lytic and sclerotic foci, cortical thickening and joint space narrowing.			
Septic arthritis	It may be the result of hematogenous seeding, or direct inoculation after joint instrumentation.	CT and MRI findings are nonspecific. The most common findings are bone erosion, joint space narrowing, synovitis and joint effusions.			
	Renal asp	pergillosis			
	Pathological findings	Imaging findings			
Renal aspergillosis	This entity is the result of hematogenous seeding, and is usually an incidental finding in the context of disseminated disease. Several different pathological processes are observed, ranging from vascular involvement with tissue infarction to renal abscess formation. Involvement of the renal vasculature results in multiple areas of renal infarction and ischemic and papillary necrosis. The renal vein may also be involved with complications including renal vein thrombosis and renal infarction.	CT reveals typically heterogeneous focal abscesses; these appear as hypoattenuating collections, which replace the renal parenchyma, with or without associated hydronephrosis. Advanced infection can lead to renal infarction and necrosis, which appears on contrast-enhanced MRI and on CT as a hypointense image, rarely progressing to emphysematous pyelonephritis.			
Renal aspergilloma	Similar to formation of aspergillomas of pulmonary or sinus origin; the renal pelvis is the most common site of involvement. Aspergilloma is composed of gray or brown cheesy material that completely fills and occludes the pelvis and other components of the collecting system. The renal parenchyma is not involved, although there may be an ascending infection.	The presence of an aspergilloma occupying the renal collecting system, appearing as a heterogeneous hypoechoic mass within the dilated calyces, can be seen by ultrasound. On CT they appear as soft tissue dense masses within the collecting system. MRI often shows isointense masses on T1 and hyperintense on T2. They may cause local vascular inflammation resulting in thrombosis. More indolent chronic infections may cause parenchymal calcifications.			
	Gastrointestinal aspergillosis				
	Pathological findings	Imaging findings			
Intestinal aspergillosis	An upper and lower intestinal aspergillosis arises from hematogenous seeding, and occurs as part of a disseminated infection. Focal areas of ulceration with variable depth and abscess formation are observed. Infiltration of hyphal elements in the intestinal wall, arteritis and thrombus formation within intramural vessels are seen.	Imaging findings of abdominal infections are variable and include nonspecific lesions, organomegaly and lymphadenopathy. Intestinal aspergillosis can manifest itself in a variety of ways, with intestinal obstruction, perforation or toxic megacolon, as a result of ischemia or tissue infarction.			
Various gastrointestinal syndromes	Several rare syndromes are related to <i>Aspergillus</i> infection: stomatitis (with purplish discoloration of the gingiva, necrotic ulceration with an overlying gray membrane, and subsequent invasion of the alveolar bone), hepatosplenic disease (with formation of a hepatosplenic abscess) and peritonitis secondary to chronic ambulatory peritonitis.	CT shows a wide range of findings; the angioinvasive characteristic of <i>Aspergillus</i> can help predict its diagnosis. Fungal vascular invasion can cause vascular thrombosis, occlusion or pseudoaneurysm with or without rupture, ischemic or hemorrhagic tissue necrosis.			

IPA: Invasive pulmonary aspergillosis; IBA: Invasive bronchial aspergillosis; CT: Computed tomography; MRI: Magnetic resonance imaging; HSCT: Hematopoietic stem-cell transplantation; GVHD: Graft-versus-host disease; HIV: human immunodeficiency virus; CGD: Chronic granulomatous disease; SOT: Solid organ transplant; CNS: Central nervous system; CSF: Cerebrospinal fluid.

Adapted from: Gregg KS et al. (11), Hope WW et al. (49), Orlowski HL et al. (69), Murthy JM et al. (90), Spadea L et al. (91), Bariteau JT et al. (106), Yeom SK et al. (111), Aribandi M et al. (154), Chong S et al. (155), Hage CA et al. (156), Payne SJ et al. (157).

b. In an adult patient diagnosed with acute/chronic invasive *Aspergillus* spp. sinusitis, what is the role of the surgical procedure?

Recommendation

- 9. In a patient diagnosed with acute/chronic invasive Aspergillus spp. sinusitis with paranasal sinus involvement and no mucosal involvement, the consensus recommends careful surgical evaluation and consideration of surgical debridement. (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence)³.
- 10. In a patient diagnosed with acute/chronic invasive Aspergillus spp. sinusitis with paranasal sinus involvement and with mucosal invasion or sphenoidal involvement, the consensus recommends initiating primary targeted antifungal therapy associated with adjunctive surgical management with surgical debridement. (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (Table 5)^{3,21,74}.
 - 2. In an adult patient with cardiovascular involvement, how is the diagnostic approach for endocarditis or pericarditis due to *Aspergillus* spp. performed?

Recommendation

- 11. In a patient with cardiovascular involvement, the consensus recommends a diagnostic approach for native valve endocarditis due to Aspergillus spp. by: (a) histopathology and/ or culture positive for Aspergillus spp. from retrieved embolus and/or resected valve, (b) positive PCR test from blood or from retrieved embolus and/or resected valve, (c) positive AGA test from serum (x2), and (d) echocardiographic evidence of endocardial abnormalities. (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-up of IA/Aspergillus Disease) (Table 2, Annex 1)^{45,49,58-60,65-73,86}.
- 12. In a patient with cardiovascular involvement, the consensus recommends a diagnostic approach for prosthetic valve endocarditis by: (a) histopathology and/or culture positive for Aspergillus spp. from retrieved embolus and/or resected valve, (b) positive PCR test from blood, retrieved embolus and/or resected valve, (c) positive AGA test from serum (x2), and (d) echocardiographic evidence of abnormalities (e.g., prosthetic valve malfunction, paravalvular leak, paravalvular collection, or vegetations larger than 10 mm). (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-up of Al/Aspergillus Disease) (Table 2, Annex 1)^{45,49,58–60,65–73,86}.
- 13. In a patient with cardiovascular involvement, the consensus recommends a diagnostic approach for pericarditis, by: (a) histopathology and/or culture positive for Aspergillus spp. from biopsy and/or pericardial aspiration, (b) positive PCR test from blood and/or pericardial fluid, (c) positive AGA test from serum (x2) and/or pericardial fluid (x1), and (d) echocardiographic evidence of pericardial disease, (e.g., pericardial effusion, signs of pericardial tamponade, widened cardiac silhouette [on chest X-ray]). (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-up of IA/Aspergillus Disease) (Table 2, Annex 1)^{45,49,58-60,65-73,86}.

a. In an adult patient diagnosed with *Aspergillus* spp. endocarditis or pericarditis, what is recommended in choosing the type of drug, dosage, and duration of antifungal treatment?

- 14. In a patient diagnosed with native/prosthetic valve endocarditis due to Aspergillus spp. the consensus recommends multidisciplinary medical-surgical therapeutic management. Early surgical management (valve replacement, abscess drainage, endocardial lesions) with aggressive surgical debridement is considered. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (Table 5)^{21,76}.
- 15. In a patient diagnosed with Aspergillus spp. pericarditis, initiation of targeted antifungal treatment associated with complementary management with pericardiocentesis is recommended. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (Table 5)^{21,76}.
- 16. In a patient diagnosed with Aspergillus spp. endocarditis/ pericarditis, the consensus recommends VCZ (IV, 6 mg/ kg/12h, day 1, then 4 mg/kg/12h) as the first antifungal treatment option. TDM is recommended to improve antifungal efficacy, evaluate therapeutic failure and reduce drug toxicity. (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-Up of IA/Aspergillus Disease [TDM in the therapeutic management of an IA/ Aspergillus disease]) (Tables 3 and 4)^{3,21,59,60,74-76}.
- L-AmB (IV, 3-5 mg/kg/d) or ISZ (IV, 200 mg/8h, day 1-2, then 200 mg/d) are an alternative for antifungal treatment in a patient diagnosed with Aspergillus spp. endocarditis/pericarditis. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (Table 4)^{3,21,76-79}.
- 18. An echinocandin (IV, CAS [70 mg, day 1, then 50 mg/d], MCF [100 mg/d]), LC-AmB (IV., 5 mg/kg/d), PCZ (IV., 300 mg/12h, day 1, then 300 mg/d), or ITZ (IV., 200 mg/12h, day 1-2, then 200 mg/d.) may be considered for salvage antifungal therapy in a patient diagnosed with Aspergillus spp. endocarditis/pericarditis. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (II Prophylaxis, Treatment and Prevention of IA in Adult and Pediatric Patients [approach to the management of refractory or progressive aspergillosis]) (Table 4)^{3,21,76,80-85}.
- 19. In a patient diagnosed with Aspergillus spp. endocarditis/ pericarditis, L-AmB (IV., 3-5 mg/kg/d) and VCZ (IV., 6 mg/ kg/12h, day 1, then 4 mg/kg/12h) may be considered as an option for combination antifungal therapy. (strong recommendation, low-quality evidence) (II Prophylaxis, Treatment and Prevention of IA in Adult and Pediatric Patients [combined antifungal treatment according to the at-risk population]) (Annex 2)^{3,21,76-78,87-89}.
- 20. It is considered that in a patient diagnosed with Aspergillus spp. endocarditis/pericarditis, the duration of antifungal therapy should be established on an individual basis, and lifelong suppressive antifungal therapy should be considered. (weak recommendation, low-quality evidence)^{3,21,76}.

Drug	Indications	Time to TDM after	Effective plasma Toxicity plasma	
Drug		treatment initiation	concentration	concentration
ITZ	 To improve efficacy in patients (immunocompromised or not) receiving ITZ, in prophylaxis or for treatment of an IFD or an allergic fungal disease: When there are drug interactions, when starting or stopping therapy (either by inhibiting absorption or affecting its metabolism) In co-medications (with Cytochrome P450 inducers). In case of suspicion of non-adherence to oral therapy. In the absence of pharmacological response. Concern about gastrointestinal absorption, especially over prolonged periods. Possible clinical or laboratory manifestations of toxicity. 	Measure from day 4-7, after the start of treatment.	In prophylaxis: 0.5 mg/L, (HPLC), or; > 3 mg/L (bioassay) For treatment: > 1-4 mg/, (HPLC)	Toxicity is associated with serum levels of ITZ > 17.1 mg/L (bioassay), or ~4 mg/L, (HPLC).
VCZ	 To improve efficacy in patients (immunocompromised or not) receiving VCZ, in prophylaxis or for treatment of an IFD: When drug interactions are present, when starting or stopping therapy. In case of suspicion of non-adherence to oral therapy. Concern about gastrointestinal absorption, especially over prolonged periods. In the absence of pharmacological response. In interactions with drugs administered simultaneously. When changing from oral to intravenous administration or vice versa. In case of hepatic insufficiency. In its administration in pediatric patients. 	Measure from day 4-7, after initiation of treatment, or on day 4 after dose adjustment.	In prophylaxis: > 1 mg/L. For treatment: 1-5.5 mg/L Repeat TDM during week 2 of treatment.	< 4.5-5.5 mg/L, (HPLC)
PCZ	 To improve efficacy in patients (immunocompromised or not) receiving PCZ, in prophylaxis or for salvage treatment of an IFD: When drug interactions are present, when starting or stopping therapy. In case of suspicion of non-adherence to oral therapy. Concern about gastrointestinal absorption, especially over prolonged periods. In the absence of pharmacological response. In co-medications, including H₂ antagonists and proton pump inhibitors. In mucositis and other types of gastrointestinal disorders. 	Measure from day 4-7, after the start of treatment.	In prophylaxis: > 0.7 mg/L at steady state, or, 0.35 mg/L after 48 hours from the start of treatment. For treatment: > 1 mg/L.	Serum PCZ levels of, 0.5-3.75 mg/L are considered safe and effective in all three formulations. Serum PCZ levels above this exposure range may be associated with toxicity.
ISZ	To improve efficacy, safety and treatment adherence in patients receiving ISZ	Measure serum concentration on day 5, after initiation of treatment, and then regularly thereafter.	Data are limited to suppor be indicated in case of trea interactions or if toxicity is	atment failure, drug

Table 3. Recommendations for TDM.

TDM: Therapeutic drug monitoring of antifungal agents; ITZ: Itraconazole; VCZ: Voriconazole; PCZ: Posaconazole; ISZ: Isavuconazole; IFD: Invasive fungal disease; HPLC: High-performance liquid chromatography.

Adapted from: Fortún J et al.²⁰, Ullmann AJ et al.²¹, Ashbee HR et al.⁵⁹, Cendejas-Bueno E. et al.¹⁵⁸.

3. In an adult patient with CNS involvement, how is the diagnostic approach for CNS (brain, spinal cord and/or meninges) aspergillosis performed?

Recommendation

In a patient with CNS involvement, the consensus recommends making the diagnostic approach for cerebrovascular aspergillosis by: (a) histopathology and/or culture positive for Aspergillus spp. from biopsy and/or from brain aspirate, and/or from contiguous site (e.g., paranasal sinus), (b) positive PCR test from cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) and/or from biopsy and/or brain aspirate, (c) positive AGA test from serum (x2) and/or CSF (x1), and (d) ab-

normal CT findings (e.g., one or more non-enhancing hypodense regions consistent with cerebral infarction, and/ or hyperdense regions consistent with hemorrhage or hemorrhagic transformation). (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-Up of IA/Aspergillus Disease) (Table 2, Annex 1)^{45,49,58,60,65–73,86}.

22. In a patient with CNS involvement, the consensus recommends making the diagnostic approach for an Aspergillus spp. brain abscess by: (a) histopathology and/or culture positive for Aspergillus spp. from abscess biopsy and/or aspirate, and/or from contiguous site (e.g., paranasal sinus), (b) positive PCR test from CSF or brain biopsy and/or aspirate, (c) positive AGA test from

serum (x2) and/or CSF (x1), and (d) abnormal findings on contrast-enhanced magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) (e.g., evidence of single or multiple space-occupying lesions showing ring enhancement, mass effect and/ or cerebral edema). (strong recommendation, highquality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-Up of IA/ Aspergillus Disease) (Table 2, Annex 1)^{45,49,58,60,65-73,86}.

- 23. In a patient with CNS involvement, the consensus recommends making the diagnostic approach for Aspergillus spp. meningitis by: (a) histopathology and/or culture positive for Aspergillus spp. from meningeal biopsy and/or CSF and/or contiguous site (e.g., paranasal sinus), (b) positive PCR test from CSF and/or blood, and (c) positive AGA test from serum (x2) and/or CSF (x1). (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-Up of IA/Aspergillus Disease) (Table 2, Annex 1)^{45,49,58,60,65–73,86}.
 - a. In an adult patient diagnosed with CNS (brain, spinal cord and/or meninges) aspergillosis, what is recommended in choosing the type of drug, dosage and duration of antifungal therapy?

Recommendation

- 24. In a patient diagnosed with CNS aspergillosis (brain, spinal cord and/or meninges), the consensus recommends VCZ (IV., 6 mg/kg/12h, day 1, then 4 mg/kg/12h) as the first antifungal treatment option. TDM is recommended to improve antifungal efficacy, evaluate therapeutic failure and reduce drug toxicity. (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-Up of IA/ Aspergillus Disease [TDM in the therapeutic management of an IA/Aspergillus disease]) (Tables 3 and 4)^{3,21,59,60,75,76}.
- High-dose L-AmB (IV., 10 mg/kg/d), or ISZ (IV., 200 mg/8h, day 1-2, then 200 mg/d) is an alternative for antifungal treatment in a patient diagnosed with CNS aspergillosis (brain, spinal cord and/or meninges), when there is a risk of: (a) hepatotoxicity due to VCZ use, (b) drug interactions, (c) intolerance to azole treatment. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (Table 4)^{3,21,76-79}.
- 26. LC-AmB (IV., 5 mg/kg/d), PCZ (IV., 300 mg/12h, day 1, then 300 mg/d), or ITZ (IV., 200 mg/12h, day 1-2, then 200 mg/d.) may be considered for salvage antifungal therapy in a patient diagnosed with CNS (brain, spinal cord and/or meninges) aspergillosis. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (II Prophylaxis, Treatment and Prevention of IA in Adult and Pediatric Patients [approach to the management of refractory or progressive aspergillosis]) (Table 4)^{3,21,76,80-85}.
- 27. In a patient diagnosed with CNS aspergillosis (brain, spinal cord and/or meninges) with evidence of single lesions, the consensus recommends that, if feasible, adjunctive surgical management with surgical debridement be performed. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (Table 5)^{3,21,76}.
- 28. In a patient diagnosed with CNS aspergillosis (brain, spinal cord and/or meninges), a surgical approach is recommended according to the size of the lesion, its location

and characteristics, and/or the impact on intracranial pressure and visual acuity. Surgical options considered are: (a) surgical decompression, (b) stereotactic drainage, (c) external ventricular drain (EVD) catheter placement, and (d) hemicraniectomy. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (Table 5)^{3,76}.

- 29. In a patient diagnosed with CNS (brain, spinal cord and/ or meninges) aspergillosis, the consensus does not recommend initiating antifungal combination therapy. (weak recommendation, low-quality evidence)^{3,76}.
- In a patient diagnosed with CNS (brain, spinal cord and/or meninges) aspergillosis, the consensus does not recommend initiating intrathecal or intralesional antifungal therapy and/ or administration of corticosteroid therapy. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (Table 5)^{3,76}.
- 31. It is considered that in a patient diagnosed with CNS (brain, spinal cord and/or meninges) aspergillosis, the duration of antifungal treatment should be established on an individual basis, and should last a minimum of 12 months. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence)^{3,21,76,90}.
 - 4. In an adult patient with ocular involvement, how is the diagnostic approach for endogenous/exogenous *Aspergillus* spp. endophthalmitis performed?

Recommendation

- 32. In a patient with ocular involvement, the consensus recommends making the diagnostic approach for endogenous/exogenous Aspergillus spp. endophthalmitis by (a) histopathology and/or culture positive for Aspergillus spp. from aqueous humor and vitreous humor specimen, (b) positive PCR test from aqueous humor and vitreous humor specimen, and (c) ocular ultrasound evidence of abnormalities. (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-Up of IA/Aspergillus Disease) (Table 2, Annex 1)^{45,49,66-69}.
 - a. In an adult patient diagnosed with endogenous/ exogenous *Aspergillus* spp. endophthalmitis, what is recommended for choosing the type of drug, dosage and duration of antifungal treatment?

- 33. In a patient diagnosed with endogenous/exogenous Aspergillus spp. endophthalmitis, the consensus recommends as a first choice of antifungal treatment to use IV. (6 mg/kg/12h, day 1, then 4 mg/kg/12h) or orally (PO.) VCZ (> 40 kg, 400 mg/12h, day 1, then 200 mg/12h). (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (Table 4)^{3,75,91-95}.
- 34. VCZ (100 μg/ 0.1ml) and D-AmB (5-10 μg) for intravitreal use, alone or in combination with VCZ, IV. or PO., are an alternative for antifungal treatment in a patient diagnosed with endogenous/exogenous Aspergillus spp. endophthalmitis. (strong recommendation, low-quality evidence)^{21,87-89,91-96}.

- ISZ (IV., 200 mg/8h, day 1-2, then 200 mg/d) or L-AmB (IV., 3-5 mg/kg/d) are an alternative for antifungal treatment in a patient diagnosed with endogenous/ exogenous Aspergillus spp. endophthalmitis (strong recommendation, low-quality evidence) (Table 4)^{3,76-79}.
- 36. PCZ (IV., 300 mg/12h, day 1, then 300 mg/d) or ITZ (IV., 200 mg/12h, day 1-2, then 200 mg/d), may be considered for salvage antifungal therapy in a patient diagnosed with endogenous/exogenous Aspergillus spp. endophthalmitis. (strong recommendation, low-quality evidence) (II Prophylaxis, Treatment and Prevention of IA in Adult and Pediatric Patients [approach to the therapeutic management of refractory/progressive aspergillosis]) (Table 4)^{3.80-82,84,85,91}.
- 37. In a patient diagnosed with endogenous/exogenous endophthalmitis due to Aspergillus spp. the consensus recommends multidisciplinary medical-surgical management and close consultation with ophthalmology. In case of clinical suspicion of an IFI/IA, early initiation of antifungal treatment associated with vitrectomy is considered. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (Table 5)^{3.91}.
- 38. It is considered that in a patient diagnosed with endogenous/exogenous Aspergillus spp. endophthalmitis, the duration of systemic and/or intravitreal antifungal treatment should be established on an individual basis, and should last a minimum of 4-6 weeks. (strong recommendation, low-quality evidence)^{3,91}.
 - 5. In an adult patient with ocular involvement, how is the diagnostic approach for *Aspergillus* spp. keratitis performed?

Recommendation

- In a patient with ocular involvement, the consensus recommends a diagnostic approach for Aspergillus spp. keratitis by: (a) positive culture for Aspergillus spp. from corneal specimen. (strong recommendation, highquality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-Up of IA/ Aspergillus Disease) (Table 2)^{45,49,66,68}.
 - a. In an adult patient diagnosed with *Aspergillus* spp. keratitis, what is recommended in choosing the type of drug, dosage, and duration of antifungal treatment?

Recommendation

- 40. In a patient diagnosed with Aspergillus spp. keratitis, the consensus recommends 5% natamycin ophthalmic suspension as the first antifungal treatment option. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (Table 4)^{3,97}.
- 41. VCZ (1-2%) or AmB (0.15-0.3%) topically are an alternative for antifungal treatment in a patient diagnosed with Aspergillus *spp. keratitis.* (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (Table 4)^{3,98-102}.

- 42. In a patient diagnosed with Aspergillus spp. keratitis presenting with giant ulcers in the anterior chamber or hypopyon, the consensus recommends using IV. VCZ (400 mg/d) as adjuvant antifungal therapy. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence)^{3,97}.
- 43. In a patient diagnosed with Aspergillus spp. keratitis who does not respond to topical antifungal treatment, the consensus recommends penetrating keratoplasty. (weak recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (Table 5)^{3,97}.
- 44. It is considered that in a patient diagnosed with Aspergillus spp. keratitis, the duration of systemic and/or intravitreal antifungal treatment should be established on an individual basis, and should last a minimum of 3-4 weeks. (strong recommendation, low-quality evidence)^{3.97}.
 - 6. In an adult patient with otic involvement, how is the diagnostic approach for *Aspergillus* spp. external otitis performed?

Recommendation

- In a patient with otic involvement, the consensus recommends a diagnostic approach for Aspergillus spp. external otiti by: (a) direct microscopy positive for Aspergillus spp. from a specimen of the external auditory canal. (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-Up of IA/Aspergillus Disease)^{49,66}.
 - a. In an adult patient diagnosed with *Aspergillus* spp. external otitis, what is the recommendation for choosing the type of drug, dosage and duration of antifungal treatment?

- 46. In an immunocompetent patient diagnosed with noninvasive Aspergillus spp. external otitis, the consensus recommends a complete mechanical cleaning of the external auditory canal and initiation of treatment with boric acid or a topical antifungal agent. It is not recommended to use potentially ototoxic drugs, creams, gels or ointments in a patient with a perforated tympanic membrane. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence)³.
- 47. The consensus considers that in an immunocompromised patient diagnosed with Aspergillus spp. external otitis, the infection may be associated with bacterial otitis, and may extend and involve deeper structures (e.g., mastoids). (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence)^{3,103-105}.
- 48. The consensus considers that in an immunocompromised patient diagnosed with invasive Aspergillus spp. external otitis, it may be necessary to initiate a prolonged course of targeted antifungal therapy with: (a) VCZ (IV, 6 mg/kg/12h, day 1, then 4 mg/kg/12h), (b) ISZ (IV, 200 mg/8h, day 1-2, then 200 mg/d), (c) PCZ (IV, 300 mg/12h, day 1, then 300 mg/d), or (d) L-AmB (IV., 3-5 mg/kg/d). (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence)^{3,77-80,103-105}.

Table 4. Systemic antifungal agents for treatment of IA. ADME, Doses.

lable	4. Sys	stemic antifungal agents for t	reatment of IA. ADME, Doses.				
POLYENES		A	It is not absorbed PO.				
		D	It has little CNS penetration.				
		М	Degradation in tissue.				
	R R	E	Renal (<10% unmodified); Biliary (15%	Renal (<10% unmodified); Biliary (15%)			
	ANPHOTERICIN	Adjustment	<u>Kidney failure</u> : no changes, no dose adjustment required. On HD or CAPD it dialyzes <5%. <u>Liver failure</u> : no changes, no dose adjustment required.				
,OL)	E E	Pregnancy	It can be used in cases of strict necessity.				
~	NP	Lactation	Contraindicated	5			
	A	Formulations	D-AmB	L-AmB	LC-AmB		
		Dosage for adults	IV. 0,4-1 mg/kg/d	IV. 3-5 mg/kg/d	IV. 3-5 mg/kg/d		
		Dosage for children	IV. 0,4-1 mg/kg/d	IV. 3-5 mg/kg/d	IV. 3-5 mg/kg/d		
		A	IV only.	10.3 5 Hig/kg/d	14. 5 5 Hg/kg/d		
		D	Widespread, although it decreases in CNS.				
		M	Hepatic and spontaneous chemical degradation.				
		E	Renal (41% inactive metabolites); Fecal (35% inactive metabolites).				
	Z						
	CASPOFUNGIN	Adjustment	<u>Kidney failure</u> : No changes. On HD: does not dialyze. <u>Liver failure</u> : <i>Child-Pugh</i> A: no changes, no dose adjustment required, <i>Child-Pugh</i> B: 70 mg 1st d, then 35 mg/d, <i>Child-Pugh</i> C: no studies available in this population.				
	CAS	Pregnancy	Avoid it if there is an alternative.				
		Lactation	Should be avoided.				
		Dosage for adults	IV, 70 mg 1st dose, then 50 mg/d (70	mg/d if >80 kg), perfuse the doses in 6	50 min.		
		Dosage for children	IV, <3 months of age, 25 mg/m2/d, or > 3 months 70 mg/m2, then 50 mg/m	ne dose. n2/d, one dose, not to exceed the adult	: dose.		
		A	IV only.				
		D	Widespread, although it decreases in CNS.				
NS	z	М	Spontaneous chemical degradation.				
ECHINOCANDINS	107	E	Renal (<1%); Fecal (>90% inactive metabolites).				
CAI	L.	Adjustment	Kidney failure: no changes. On HD: does not dialyze.				
N			Liver failure: no changes, no dose adjustment required.				
ECH	ANIDULAFUNGIN	Pregnancy	Avoid it if there is an alternative.				
	A	Lactation	Should be avoided.				
		Dosage for adults	IV, 200 mg 1st dose (in 3h), then 100 mg/d (in 1.5h).				
		Dosage for children	IV, 3 mg/kg 1st dose, then 1.5 mg/kg,	/d.			
		A	IV only.				
		D	Widespread, although it decreases in CNS.				
		М	Hepatic (via catechol-O-methyltransferase), CYP3A <i>in vitro</i> .				
	z	E	Renal [10-30% (<1% unmodified)]; Fecal (70% as metabolites).				
	D N	Adjustment	Kidney failure: no changes. On HD: does not dialyze.				
	AFU		Liver failure: Child-Pugh A and B: no c	hanges, no dose adjustment required,	Child-Pugh C: no data.		
	MICAFUNGI	Pregnancy	Avoid it if there is an alternative.				
	2	Lactation	Should be avoided.				
		Dosage for adults	IV. 100-150 mg/d (in perfusion for 1 h	n).			
		Dosage for children	Newborn: 4 to 10 mg/kg/d in one dos				
			> 4 months (<40 kg): 2-4 mg/kg/d in	one dose. > 40 kg: 100 mg/d.			
		A	IV and PO (high).				
		D	Very wide. High CNS penetration				
		М	Hepatic. [10% (CYP34A4)].				
		E	Renal [70-80% (glomerular filtration a				
AZOLES	FLUCONAZOLE	Adjustment	100-400 mg/kg/d (post-HD); In CAPD Liver failure: Child-Pugh A: no dose ac	ːg/d; GF 10-50: 50% of dose; GF <10: 5 : 50-200 mg/kg/d; In CRRT: 200-400 m djustment required. a last option, monitor liver function and	g/kg/d.		
	FLU	Pregnancy	Avoid it if there is an alternative.				
		Lactation	It can be used.				
		Dosage for adults	PO 50-800 mg/d; IV. 50-800 mg/d.				
			Requires loading dose in severe shock				
		Dosage for children	> 1 year, 3-12 mg/kg/d; neonates 6-1	2 mg/kg/d.			

		А	IV and PO.
		D	Low. Does not penetrate CNS.
		М	Hepatic, extensive via CYP34A4, CYP3A5, hydroxy-itraconazole metabolite (fluconazole-like activity).
		E	Renal (< 1% unmodified, 40% metabolites); Biliary (55% metabolites).
	ITRACONAZOLE	Adjustment	Kidney failure:IV formulation contains cyclodextrin, which accumulates in kidney failure (not +2 weeks). GF > 10:no changes (IV formulation should not be used if GF < 30, use oral formulation, 50-100 mg/d), GF < 10: 50% of
		Pregnancy	Avoid it if there is an alternative.
		Lactation	Should be avoided.
		Dosage for children	> 5 years, 2.5 mg/kg/12h.
		Dosage for children	> 5 years, 2.5 mg/kg/12h.
		A	IV and PO (high).
		D	Very wide. High CNS penetration
		М	Hepatic. They are P-450 inhibitors. IV. CYP2C19, CYP3A4, CYP2C9; P.O. CYP3A4
		E	Renal (85% inactive metabolites, 2% unmodified); Fecal (20% inactive metabolites).
AZOLES	VORICONAZOLE	Adjustment	Kidney failure:PO, no changes.With IV use, the diluent (cyclodextrin) may accumulate; GF > 50: 4 mg/kg/12h; GF 10-50: Do not use the IVformulation; GF < 50 (accumulation of cyclodextrin with IV formulation), use the PO formulation 200 mg/12h; GF
AZ		Pregnancy	Avoid it if there is an alternative.
		Lactation	Should be avoided.
		Dosage for adults	IV. 6 mg/kg/12h 1st dose, then 4 mg/kg/12h. PO > 40 kg, 400 mg/12h 1st dose, then 200 mg/12h; < 40 kg, 200 mg/12h 1st dose, then 100 mg/12h. Bioavailability of 95%, administration with food decreases it by 20-30% (administer it on an empty stomach).
		Dosage for children	IV. 2-12 years or 12-14 years and weight < 50 kg, 9 mg/kg/12h. 1st dose, then 8 mg/kg/12h. PO. 9 mg/kg/12h (maximum dose 350 mg/12h). Child > 12 years and weight \ge 50 kg or > 15 years, same as adult.
		A	IV and PO.
		D	Widespread.
		М	Hepatic (glucuronoconjugation); Inactive metabolisms, CYP3A4.
		E	Renal (14% inactive metabolites); Fecal (77%, 66% unmodified).
		Adjustment	<u>Kidney failure</u> : GF > 50: 300 mg/d; GF 10-50: 300 mg/d; GF <10: 300 mg/d. On HD: does not dialyze, 300 mg/d; In CAPD: 300 mg/d; In CRRT: 300 mg/d. <u>Liver failure</u> : no changes, no dose adjustment required.
	3	Pregnancy	Avoid it if there is an alternative.
	AZO	Lactation	Contraindicated.
	POSACONAZOLE	Dosage for adults	PO suspension (40 mg/mL): 400 mg/12h, with meals (if no meals are taken, 200 mg/6h). PO. 200 mg/8h (with food), for prophylaxis. Delayed-release tablets ([DRT] 100 mg): 300 mg/12h 1st dose, then 300 mg/d, for prophylaxis. IV: 300 mg/12h 1st dose, then 300 mg/d (prophylaxis). It takes 7-10 d to achieve steady state. It takes 7-10 d to reach steady state. No IV formulation. Administration with food (preferably fatty) significantly increases absorption. On the other hand, an increase in gastric pH (antacids, H antagonists, proton pump inhibitors) and grade I-II mucositis decrease it.
		Dosage for children	Children > 13 years old, same as in adults. Children < 13 years, there are no specific recommendations. Children 2-16 years with CGD for 30 d: 10-14 kg: 120 mg/12h; 15-19 kg: 160 mg/12h; 20-24 kg: 200 mg/12h; 25- 29 kg: 220 mg/12h; 30-34 kg: 260 mg/12h; 35-39kg: 280 mg/12h; ≥40 kg: 300 mg/12h.

		А	IV and PO.
		D	Widespread, although it decreases in CNS.
		М	Hepatic. CYP 3A4. CYP3A4 - CYP3A5.
	"	E	<1% urine. Degradation products in urine.
AZOLES	ISAVUCONAZOLE	Adjustment	<u>Kidney failure</u> : no changes. IV. GF > 50: 200 mg/d; GF 10-50: 200 mg/d; GF <10: 200 mg/d. On HD: 200 mg/d; In CAPD: 200 mg/d; In CRRT: 200 mg/d. <u>Liver failure</u> : No dose adjustment is required in patients with mild or moderate liver failure (<i>Child-Pugh</i> A and B). There is no experience in severe liver failure (<i>Child-Pugh</i> C).
	IS	Pregnancy	Teratogenic.
		Lactation	Contraindicated.
		Dosage for adults	IV and PO: 200 mg/8h, first 48 h (6 doses), then 200 mg/d, started 12-24h after loading dose.
		Dosage for children	No data available.

IA: invasive aspergillosis; A: Administration; D: Distribution; M: Metabolism; E: Excretion; D-AmB: Amphotericin B deoxycholate; L-AmB: Liposomal amphotericin B; LC-AmB: Amphotericin B lipid complex; GF: Glomerular filtration; IV: Intravenous route; PO: Oral route; d: Day/days; h: Hour/hours; g: Grams; mg: Milligrams; kg: Kilograms; HD: Hemodialysis; CAPD: Continuous Ambulatory Peritoneal Dialysis; CRRT: Continuous Renal Replacement Therapy; CGD: Chronic Granulomatous Disease; CNS: Central Nervous System.

Adapted from: Mensa-Pueyo J, et al.¹⁵⁹, Gilbert D, et al.¹⁶⁰, Jenks JD. et al.¹⁶¹, Ghannoum MA, Perfect JR (eds).¹⁶², Ruiz-Camps I et al.¹⁶³, Bellmann R et al.¹⁶⁴, Cuenca-Estrella M¹⁶⁵, Lewis RE¹⁶⁶, Nett JE et al. (167), Autmizguine J et al.¹⁶⁸.

- 49. In an immunocompromised patient diagnosed with invasive Aspergillus spp. external otitis, the consensus recommends initiating targeted antifungal therapy, associated with complementary surgical management with surgical debridement, according to the clinical situation and the extent of the infection. (strong recommendation, lowquality evidence) (Tables 4 and 5)^{3,103–105}.
- 50. It is considered that in a patient diagnosed with invasive Aspergillus spp. external otitis, the duration of antifungal treatment should be established on an individual basis, and should last a minimum of 6-8 weeks. (strong recommendation, moderate-guality evidence)^{3,21,76}.
 - 7. In an adult patient with skin involvement, how is the diagnostic approach for primary/secondary cutaneous aspergillosis performed?

Recommendation

- 51. In a patient with skin involvement, the consensus recommends performing the diagnostic approach for a primary/secondary aspergillosis: (a) patient with proven/probable pulmonary and/or disseminated involvement and/or history of trauma, and (b) histopathology and/or culture positive for Aspergillus spp. from a skin and/or contiguous site specimen. (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-Up of IA/Aspergillus Disease) (Table 2)^{45,49,66-68}.
 - a. In an adult patient diagnosed with primary/secondary cutaneous aspergillosis, what is recommended in choosing the drug type, dosage, and duration of antifungal therapy?

Recommendation

52. In a patient diagnosed with primary/secondary cutaneous aspergillosis, the consensus recommends evaluating a possible hematogenous source and/or dissemination from contiguous structures and/or the primary focus and/or association with trauma. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence)^{3,86}.

- 53. In a patient diagnosed with primary/secondary cutaneous aspergillosis, the consensus recommends VCZ (IV., 6 mg/kg/12h, day 1, then 4 mg/kg/12h) as the first antifungal treatment option. TDM is recommended to improve antifungal efficacy, evaluate therapeutic failure and reduce drug toxicity. (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-Up of IA/Aspergillus Disease [TDM in the therapeutic management of an IA/Aspergillus disease]) (Tables 3 and 4)^{21,59,60,75,76}.
- L-AmB (IV., 3-5 mg/kg/d) or ISZ (IV., 200 mg/8h, day 1-2, then 200 mg/d) are an alternative for antifungal treatment in a patient diagnosed with primary/secondary cutaneous aspergillosis. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (Table 4)^{3,21,76-79}.
- 55. In a patient diagnosed with primary/secondary cutaneous aspergillosis, the consensus recommends initiating targeted antifungal therapy associated with adjunctive surgical management with surgical debridement (e.g., for burns and/or massive soft tissue wounds or lesions). (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (Table 5)^{3,76}.
- 56. It is considered that in a patient diagnosed with primary/ secondary cutaneous aspergillosis, the duration of antifungal treatment should be established on an individual basis, and should last a minimum of 6-8 weeks. (Strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence)^{3,76}.
 - 8. In an adult patient with osteoarticular involvement, how is the diagnostic approach for osteomyelitis and/or *Aspergillus* spp. bone infection performed?

Recommendation

57. In a patient with osteoarticular involvement, the consensus recommends a diagnostic approach for osteomyelitis and/or Aspergillus spp. bone infection by: (a) histopathology and/or culture positive for Aspergillus spp. from percutaneous biopsy of the affected bone and/or contiguous soft tissue structures. (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-Up of IA/Aspergillus Disease) (Table 2)^{45,49,65-69,106,107}.

a. In an adult patient diagnosed with osteomyelitis and/or *Aspergillus* spp. bone infection, what is recommended in choosing the type of drug, dosage and duration of antifungal treatment?

Recommendation

- 58. In a patient diagnosed with osteomyelitis and/or Aspergillus spp. bone infection, the consensus recommends prolonged use of IV. (6 mg/kg/12h, day 1, then 4 mg/kg/12h), or PO. (200mg/12h) VCZ as a first choice of antifungal treatment. TDM is recommended to improve antifungal efficacy, evaluate therapeutic failure and reduce drug toxicity. (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-Up of IA/Aspergillus Disease [TDM in the therapeutic management of an IA/Aspergillus disease]) (Tables 3 and 4)^{321,59,60,75,76,106}.
- L-AmB (IV., 3-5 mg/kg/d) or ISZ (IV., 200 mg/8h, day 1-2, then 200 mg/d) are an alternative for antifungal treatment in a patient diagnosed with osteomyelitis and/ or Aspergillus spp. bone infection. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (Table 4)^{3,21,76-79}.
- 60. An echinocandin (IV., CAS [70 mg, day 1, then 50 mg/d], MCF [100 mg/d]), LC-AmB (IV., 5 mg/kg/d), PCZ (IV., 300 mg/12h, day 1, then 300 mg/d), or ITZ (IV., 200 mg/12h, day 1-2, then 200 mg/d.), may be considered for salvage antifungal treatment in a patient diagnosed with osteomyelitis and/or Aspergillus spp. bone infection. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (II Prophylaxis, Treatment and Prevention of IA in Adult and Pediatric Patients [approach to the management of refractory or progressive aspergillosis]) (Table 4)^{3,76,80-85,106}.
- 61. In a patient diagnosed with osteomyelitis and/or Aspergillus spp. bone infection, L-AmB (IV., 3-5 mg/kg/d) and VCZ (IV., 6 mg/kg/12h, day 1, then 4 mg/kg/12h) may be considered as an option for combination antifungal therapy. (strong recommendation, low-quality evidence) (II Prophylaxis, Treatment and Prevention of IA in Adult and Pediatric Patients [combined antifungal treatment according to the at-risk population]) (Annex 2)^{3,21,76-78,87-89}.
- 62. In a patient with osteomyelitis and/or Aspergillus spp. bone infection, it is recommended to initiate primary targeted antifungal therapy associated with adjunctive surgical management with surgical debridement of devitalized bone. (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (Table 5)^{3,76,106}.
- 63. It is considered that in a patient diagnosed with osteomyelitis and/or Aspergillus spp. bone infection, the duration of antifungal treatment should be established on an individual basis, and should last a minimum of 90 days, with the possibility of long courses (> 6 months). (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence)^{3,21,76}.

9. In an adult patient with peritoneal involvement, how is the diagnostic approach for *Aspergillus* spp. peritonitis performed?

Recommendation

64. In a patient with peritoneal involvement, the consensus recommends making the diagnostic approach for Aspergillus spp. peritonitis by: (a) histopathology and/or culture positive for Aspergillus spp. from peritoneal fluid, (b) positive PCR test from peritoneal fluid, (c) positive AGA test from serum (x2) and/or peritoneal fluid (x1), and (d) positive (1,3)-β-D-glucan (BDG) test from serum. (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-Up of IA/ Aspergillus Disease) (Table 2, Annex 1)^{45,58,66-73,86,108-110}.

Table 5. Adjuvant surgery for the management of an IA.

Involved organ	Recommended approach
Lesions close to great vessels and/ or pericardium.	Resection of the lesion
Pericardial involvement	Pericardiectomy
Chest wall invasion due to pulmonary lesion	Resection of thoracic lung and wall lesion (possibility of subsequent reconstruction).
Empyema	Chest tube drainage, consider surgical drainage and thoracotomy (in case of fibrinopurulent or organized empyema).
Hemoptysis secondary to lung injury	Cavity resection or embolization
Skin and soft tissue involvement	Debridement and resection with wide margins
Infected vascular catheters and prostheses	Removal of devices
Endocarditis	Removal of the device, excision of the vegetation and resection of the infected valves.
Osteomyelitis	Debridement and cleaning of the affected tissue, if possible, with subsequent reconstruction (musculoskeletal grafts, bone grafts).
Sinusitis	Cleaning, curettage and resection of affected tissues
CNS involvement	Resection and removal of affected tissue and space-occupying lesions.
Endophthalmitis or panophthalmitis	Vitrectomy, evisceration or enucleation. Consider intravitreal administration of antifungal agents.
Extrahepatic or perihepatic bile duct obstruction	Resection, excision and clearance, or intraluminal drainage or stent placement

CNS: Central nervous system.

Adapted from: Fortún J et al.²⁰, García-Vidal C et al.⁷⁶, Walsh TJ et al.¹⁶⁹.

10. In the adult patient diagnosed with *Aspergillus* spp. peritonitis, what is recommended in choosing the type of drug, dosage, and duration of antifungal therapy?

Recommendation

- 65. In a patient diagnosed with Aspergillus spp. peritonitis, the consensus recommends VCZ (IV., 6 mg/kg/12h, day 1, then 4 mg/kg/12h) as the first antifungal treatment option. TDM is recommended to improve antifungal efficacy, evaluate therapeutic failure and reduce drug toxicity. (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-Up of IA/Aspergillus Disease [TDM in the therapeutic management of an IA/ Aspergillus disease]) (Tables 3 and 4)^{3,21,59,60,75,76}.
- L-AmB (IV., 3-5 mg/kg/d) or ISZ (IV., 200 mg/8h, day 1-2, then 200 mg/d) are an alternative for antifungal treatment in a patient diagnosed with Aspergillus spp. peritonitis. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (Table 4)^{3,21,76-79}.
- 67. In a patient diagnosed with Aspergillus spp. peritonitis, the consensus recommends initiating primary targeted antifungal therapy, associated with evaluating the removal of the peritoneal dialysis catheter. (weak recommendation, moderate-quality evidence)^{3,76}.
- 68. It is considered that in a patient diagnosed with Aspergillus spp. peritonitis, the duration of antifungal treatment should be established on an individual basis, and should last a minimum of 2 weeks IV., followed by PO., until completing 12 weeks. (weak recommendation, moderate-quality evidence)^{3,76}.
 - 10. In an adult patient with gastrointestinal and/or hepatic involvement, how is the diagnostic approach for gastrointestinal and/or hepatic aspergillosis performed?

Recommendation

- 69. In a patient with gastrointestinal and/or hepatic involvement, the consensus recommends making the diagnostic approach for gastrointestinal and/or hepatic aspergillosis by: (a) patient with proven/probable pulmonary and/or sinus involvement, (b) histopathology and/or culture positive for Aspergillus spp. from gastrointestinal and/or liver and/or contiguous site biopsy (b) positive PCR test from gastrointestinal and/or liver biopsy, and (c) positive AGA test from serum (x2). (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-Up of IA/ Aspergillus Disease) (Table 2, Annex 1)^{45,49,58,65-73,86,111}.
 - a. In an adult patient diagnosed with gastrointestinal and/or hepatic aspergillosis, what is recommended in choosing the type of drug, dosage, and duration of antifungal therapy?

Recommendation

70. In a patient diagnosed with gastrointestinal and/or hepatic aspergillosis, the consensus recommends VCZ (IV., 6 mg/kg/12h, day 1, then 4 mg/kg/12h) as the first antifungal

treatment option. TDM is recommended to improve antifungal efficacy, evaluate therapeutic failure and reduce drug toxicity. (strong recommendation, high-quality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-Up of IA/Aspergillus Disease [TDM in the therapeutic management of an IA/ Aspergillus disease]) (Tables 3 and 4)^{3,21,59,60,74-76}.

- L-AmB (IV., 3-5 mg/kg/d) or ISZ (IV., 200 mg/8h, day 1-2, then, 200 mg/d) are an alternative for antifungal treatment in a patient diagnosed with gastrointestinal and/or hepatic aspergillosis. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (Table 4)^{3,74,77-79}.
- 72. An echinocandin (IV., CAS [70 mg, day 1, then 50 mg/d], MCF [100 mg/d]), LC-AmB (IV., 5 mg/kg/d), PCZ (IV., 300 mg/12h, day 1, then 300 mg/d), or ITZ (IV., 200 mg/12h, day 1-2, then 200 mg/d.) may be considered for salvage antifungal therapy in a patient diagnosed with gastrointestinal and/or hepatic aspergillosis. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (II Prophylaxis, Treatment and Prevention of IA in Adult and Pediatric Patients [approach to the management of refractory or progressive aspergillosis]) (Table 4)^{3,80-85}.
- 73 In a patient diagnosed with gastrointestinal and/or hepatic aspergillosis, multidisciplinary medical-surgical management and close consultation with surgery is recommended. In the clinical suspicion of an IFI/IA, antifungal treatment associated with early complementary surgical management is considered to prevent possible complications (perforation, hemorrhage, infarction or obstruction). (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (Table 5)^{3,21,76}.
- 74. It is recommended that in a patient diagnosed with hepatic aspergillosis and extrahepatic or perihepatic biliary obstruction, and/or localized lesions refractory to antifungal therapy, adjunctive surgical management be considered. (weak recommendation, low-quality evidence) (Table 5)^{3,21,76}.
- 75. In a patient diagnosed with hepatic aspergillosis, an echinocandin (IV., CAS [70 mg, day 1, then 50 mg/d], MCF [100 mg/d]), and VCZ (IV., 6 mg/kg/12h, day 1, then 4 mg/kg/12h), may be considered as an option for combination antifungal therapy. (strong recommendation, low-quality evidence) (II Prophylaxis, Treatment and Prevention of IA in Adult and Pediatric Patients [combined antifungal treatment according to the at-risk population]) (Annex 2)^{3,21,76,81,85,87-89}.
- 76. It is considered that in a patient diagnosed with gastrointestinal and/or hepatic aspergillosis, the duration of antifungal treatment should be established on an individual basis, and should last a minimum of 6-8 weeks. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence)^{3,21}.
- 11. In an adult patient with renal involvement, how is the diagnostic approach for renal aspergillosis performed?

Recommendation

77. In a patient with renal involvement, the consensus recommends making the diagnostic approach for renal aspergillosis by: (a) histopathology and/or culture positive

for Aspergillus spp. from renal biopsy and/or from parenchymal and/or contiguous site abscesses, (b) positive PCR test from renal biopsy, and (c) positive AGA test from serum (x2). (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-Up of IA/Aspergillus Disease) (Table 2, Annex 1)^{45,49,58,65-73,86,112}.

a. In an adult patient diagnosed with renal aspergillosis, what is recommended in choosing the type of drug, dosage, and duration of antifungal therapy?

Recommendation

- 78. In a patient diagnosed with renal aspergillosis, the consensus recommends VCZ (IV., 6 mg/kg/12h, day 1, then 4 mg/kg/12h) as the first antifungal treatment option. TDM is recommended to improve antifungal efficacy, evaluate therapeutic failure and reduce drug toxicity. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (I Diagnosis and Follow-Up of IA/Aspergillus Disease [TDM in the therapeutic management of an IA/Aspergillus disease]) (Tables 3 and 4)^{3,59,60,75,112-115}.
- L-AmB (IV., 3-5 mg/kg/d) or ISZ (IV., 200 mg/8h, day 1-2, then, 200 mg/d) are an alternative for antifungal treatment in a patient diagnosed with renal aspergillosis. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (Table 4)^{3,77-79}.
- In a patient diagnosed with renal aspergillosis, an echinocandin (IV., CAS [70 mg, day 1, then 50 mg/d], MCF [100 mg/d]), LC-AmB (IV., 5 mg/kg/d), PCZ (IV., 300 mg/12h, day 1, then 300 mg/d), or ITZ (IV., 200 mg/12h, day 1-2, then 200 mg/d.) may be considered for salvage antifungal therapy. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (II Prophylaxis, Treatment and Prevention of IA in Adult and Pediatric Patients [approach to the management of refractory or progressive aspergillosis]) (Table 4)^{3,80-85}.
- 81. The use of local D-AmB through nephrostomy irrigation is an alternative antifungal treatment in a patient diagnosed with renal aspergillosis. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (Tables 3 and 4)^{3,115}.
- 82. In a patient diagnosed with renal aspergillosis, multidisciplinary medical-surgical therapeutic management and close consultation with urology is recommended. Upon clinical suspicion of IFI/IA, initiation of antifungal therapy associated with early adjunctive surgical management is considered. (strong recommendation, moderate-quality evidence) (Table 5)^{3,21,76}.
- 83. It is considered that in a patient diagnosed with renal aspergillosis, the duration of antifungal treatment should be established on an individual basis, and should last a minimum of 12 weeks, and will depend on the clinical evolution of the patient. (weak recommendation, low-quality evidence)^{3,76,114,115}.

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Confidentiality of data. In this consensus there are not data from patients.

Right to privacy and informed consent. No data from patients is published.

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Protection of human and animal subjects. There are not experimental data from humans and animals in this work.

Supplementary material online

The tables that are described as annex on the text, are available at the link for supplementary material online, of this manuscript, at the website of journal.

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