BOOK REVIEW - LIVRO*

PRASAD, Rajendra, ed. - Candida albicans: cellular and molecular biology. Berlin, Springer-Verlag, 1991.

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Candida, which was discovered more than a century ago as a causative organism of oral thrush, can now claim to infect practically every tissue of the human body. Accordingly, the field of Candida and candidosis has grown rapidly. The ever increasing literature on various aspects of infections caused by Candida is, in itself, an indication of the concerted efforts of leading biochemists and molecular biologists in unravelling the mysteries of its pathogenicity and treatment. Although we still do not have a safe anti-Candida drug, the growing pace of progress of research on Candida albicans holds promise that a breakthrough is imminent.

Though many monographs and articles on **Candida** and candidosis have appeared in recent years, they mostly cover the clinical aspects. This particular text, however, explains the more basis features of **Candida** including the molecular genetics, molecular biology and immunology of the cell wall, the molecular basis of morphogenesis and the structure and function of the plasma membrane. The role of anti-**Candida** drugs and their mechanisms of action are also discussed.

This book will be useful not only to clinicians, but also to others who are engaged in the important task of resolving diverse problems associated with the pathogenicity of **Candida albicans** and of designing new anti-**Candida drugs**.

^{*} Este livro encontra-se na Biblioteca do Instituto de Medicina Tropical de São Paulo.