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Indications and consumption patterns of antifungal therapy in Belgian ICUs between 2015 and 2022



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BACKGROUND & OBJECTIVES

- Invasive fungal infections lead to 2.5 million deaths annually (1).
- Belgium has a high antifungal consumption per capita compared to its neighbours (2).
- Reports on indications and consumption of antifungal therapy in ICUs are scarce. However, these reports are invaluable to identify certain trends in antifungal consumption and to design antifungal stewardship initiatives.
- To describe reported indications and identify consumption patterns of antifungal therapy in Belgian ICU between 2015 and 2022.

METHODS

- By voluntary participation in successive point prevalence surveys (Global-PPS) in Belgian hospitals from 2015-2022 (402 surveys of 140 acute care hospitals) a dataset was collected (3).
- Descriptive analysis of Global-PPS focusing on antifungal consumption in the ICUs.
- Identify trends by analysing reported indications and antifungal agents

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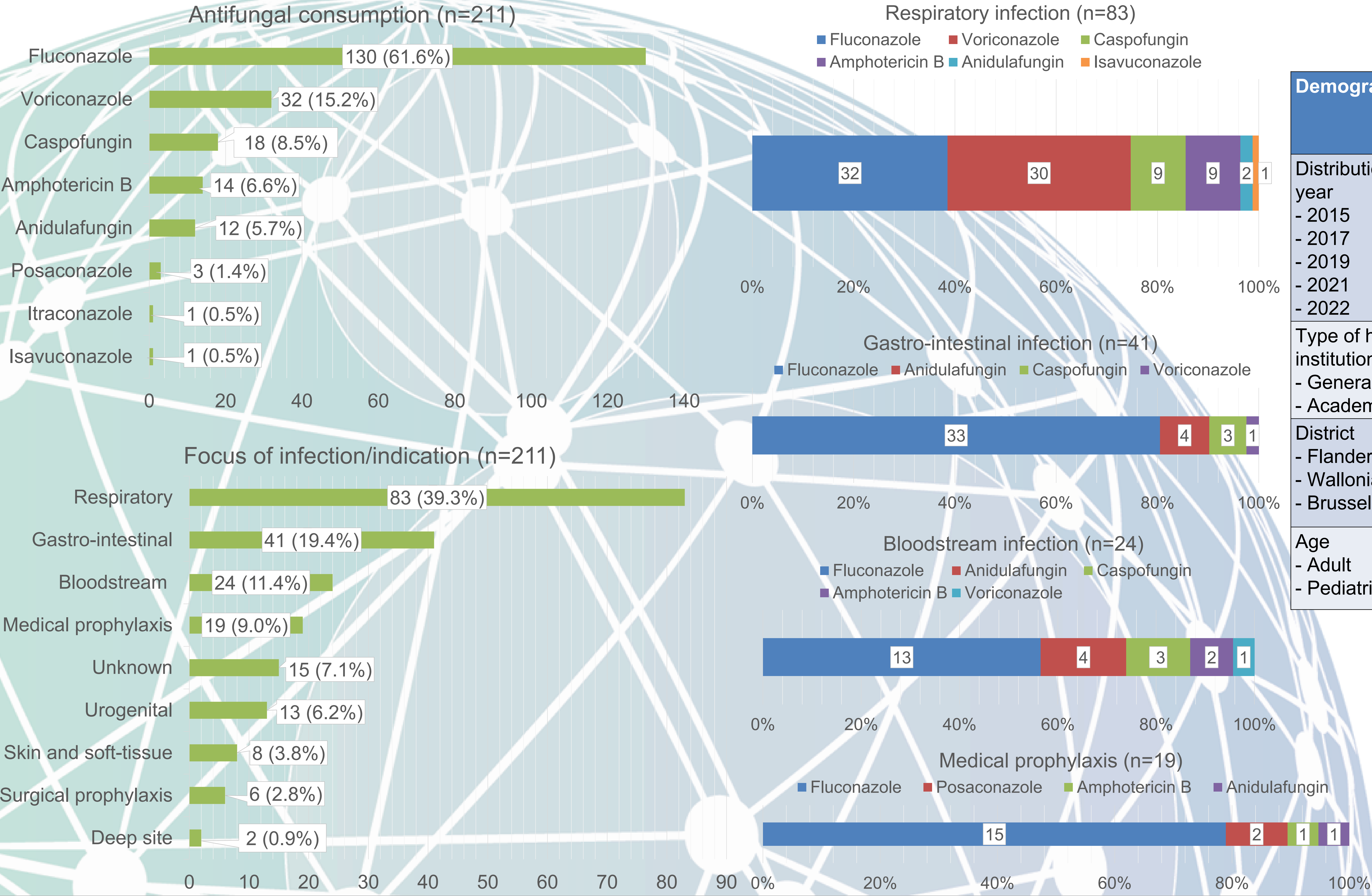
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Disclosures: bioMérieux is the sole industrial partner of the Global-PPS. The company has no role in study design, data collection, data analysis, data interpretation, or writing the report. Data are strictly confidential and stored anonymously at the coordinating centre of the University of Antwerp.

RESULTS

- In total 4958 Belgian ICU patients were surveyed with Global-PPS between 2015 and 2022. 211 (4.3%) ICU patients received antifungal therapy.
- Demographics and analysis of the patients on antifungal therapy, antifungal consumption, reported indications and patterns are displayed in the table and figures.



CONCLUSION

- **On average 4.3% of Belgian ICU patients received antifungal therapy.**
- **Fluconazole was the most prescribed antifungal agent across all reported indications.**
- **Antifungal stewardship initiatives focusing on the distinction between colonization and infection might be effective to reduce fluconazole consumption in fungal respiratory infections.**

Demographic	Patients on antifungals (n=211)
Distribution by survey year	
- 2015	71 (33.6%)
- 2017	52 (24.6%)
- 2019	44 (20.9%)
- 2021	25 (11.8%)
- 2022	19 (9.0%)
Type of health-care institution	
- General hospital	149 (70.6%)
- Academic hospital	62 (29.4%)
District	
- Flanders	122 (57.8%)
- Wallonia	65 (30.8%)
- Brussels capital district	24 (11.4%)
Age	
- Adult	193 (91.5%)
- Pediatric	18 (8.5%)



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