

Ultrastructural Localization of Phospholipase Enzyme in Vaginal *Candida Albicans*

ABSTRACT

Candida albicans is the most common cause of vaginal candidosis. Without the clinical symptom it is difficult to distinguish between the normal flora and pathogenic C. albicans. C. albicans which is a saprophyte under normal condition may cause vaginitis when present in large number or when the condition of host is changed. Much attention has been focused toward defining the pathogenic mechanisms of the organism. This study concerned with phospholipase enzymes which was considered to be one of pathogenic factors. The localization of phospholipase was demonstrated in ten clinical isolates of C. albicans by electron microscopy. Similar results were obtained in all specimens. The phospholipase activity was localized at the cell wall, the wall attached between budding yeast cells, the start of budding, the cell membrane, and in the cytoplasm. However, the enzyme activity was not detected in some yeast cells.

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