

**TITLE:** SPECIES DISTRIBUTION OF CANDIDEMIA AGENTS IN HOSPITALS IN LATIN AMERICA: SYSTEMATIC REVIEW AND META-ANALYSIS. PRELIMINARY RESULTS.

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**ABSTRACT:**

Candidemia is a growing cause of bloodstream infection in tertiary hospitals, where immunosuppressed patients or patients who depend on assisted ventilation are admitted, in which antifungals, parenteral nutrition and catheters are frequently used.

Objective. To compare the prevalence of candidemia agents in hospitalized patients in Latin America. The systematic review was conducted according to the Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) methodology for assessing prevalence and incidence in patients with candidemia admitted to hospitals in Latin America. The search strategies were performed on the platforms of the Virtual Health Library, PubMed and EMBASE and the articles were independently evaluated in pairs. Results will be presented as mean and 95% confidence interval. Statistical analysis was performed using the Stata 17 software. After removing duplicates, the search resulted in 8,072 studies, 122 of which were selected for full reading and, finally, 70 were included for the systematic review, with the analysis of 12,892 isolates. The prevalence of *Candida albicans* was 39% [37% - 41%], that of *C. parapsilosis* 24% [22% - 26%], that of *C. tropicalis* 18% [16% - 20%] and that of *C. glabrata* 5% [5% - 6%]. Simultaneous isolation of more than one species was observed in only 21 cases. Preliminary results reveal that *C. albicans* is the most prevalent agent of candidemia in Latin American patients and that, among non-*C. albicans* predominates to *C. parapsilosis*.

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**Keywords:** systematic review, candidemia, Latin America

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