Dermatophytes Fungi Response

Institutional Affiliation

Date

Dermatophytes fungi need keratin for growth and are responsible for causing a wide range of skin, hair and nail infections. The fungi are spread through contact with infected bodies of people, animals or soil organisms. They may also be contracted from fomites indirectly. Infection of dermatophytes can be typically diagnosed, by physical examination, history, or through the laboratory process of using potassium hydroxide microscopy. Since the fungi need keratin to survive, their growth on body parts is restricted to the cornfield skin layer, nails and hair, hence cannot infect mucosal body tissues. Dermatophytes are commonly known as tinea infections, but their name may vary in reflection to the body part involved. Risk factors for dermatophytes infection include exposure and contact with infected bodies, hot and humid environment, occlusive clothing as well as fomites exposure, including hairbrushes, hat, and comb (Weitzman & Summerbell, 2015).

Reference

Weitzman, I., & Summerbell, R. C. (2015). The dermatophytes. *Clinical microbiology reviews*, *8*(2), 240-259.