# SERIES OF SPOROTRICHOSIS CASES IN THE NORTHEAST REGION OF RIO GRANDE DO SUL, BRAZIL

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## INTRODUCTION

Sporotrichosis is a subacute or chronic infection characterized by polymorphic lesions of the skin and the subcutaneous tissue that begins by inoculation of *Sporothrix schenckii*, through a microtrauma in the skin. The agent has a global distribution with higher prevalence in Latin America and Africa, being the subcutaneous mycosis with greater occurrence in the state of Rio Grande do Sul. The objective of this study is to present 32 cases of sporotrichosis diagnosed in Caxias do Sul and surrounding areas, showing epidemiological aspects of mycosis in this region, thus contributing to a better understanding of the interfaces of this pathology.

## METHODOLOGY

A total of 32 patients with Sporotrichosis were studied in two laboratories in the city of Caxias do Sul: Bio-Hematec Clinical Analysis Laboratory and Mycology Laboratory of the University of Caxias do Sul, RS, from 1978 to 2014. Data are presented concerning gender, age, occupation, location of lesions, diagnosis and treatment. Statistical analysis was performed using the IBM SPSS® 22.0 software.

**Figure:** Macromorphology and micromorphology of the filamentous phase of *Sporothrix* spp and sporotrichosis lesions on skin.

## RESULTS

Among the patients diagnosed with Sporotrichosis, there was a predominance of males n = 27 (84.4%); the age ranged from 16 to 70 years, with a mean of 40.8 years (± 12.85); presenting a higher incidence in the fourth decade of life (40-49 years) n = 14 (43.6%); For the diagnosis, the Direct Micological Examination (DME) and the Cultural Mycological Examination (CME) were used. For treatment, potassium iodide, itraconazole, fluconazole, terbinafine, and amphotericin B were used. Lesions were predominantly found in the upper limbs n = 29 (82.8%), with predominance in the n = 15 (42.8%) arms. and in the hands n = 14 (40.0%); ulcers were the most prevalent lesions n = 18 (51.4%); the predominant profession was that of farmer n = 14 (43.6%).

## CONCLUSION

Sporotrichosis is an endemic disease in Rio Grande do Sul. The importance of the present study, despite the low occurrence in Caxias do Sul and region, is due to the high degree of ruralization in the Northeast of Rio Grande do Sul, culminating in a greater possibility occurrence of mycosis. The similarity of the lesions with other pathologies can lead to misdiagnosis and treatments, being the correct identification of the etiology of extreme importance for an early and adequate therapy. Thus, we note the relevance of the clarification about this peculiar fungal infection, from its epidemiology to its clinical and laboratory aspects.

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