

Dermatophytosis Due to *Trichophyton verrucosum* and *T. mentagrophytes*

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Letter to the Editor

Here, I wish to comment that the taxonomy of dermatophytes has recently been revolutionized and a new taxonomy was internationally established [1]. Indeed, to update the mycologic data in all aspects of dermatophytosis the new taxa should be considered. Our recent sequence-based investigations in Iran [2,3] and some unpublished data obviously indicate that currently most of the strains morphologically identified as *T. verrucosum* are, in fact, *T. verrucosum* var. *autotrophicum* (Figure 1) which recently regarded to be conspecific with *T. interdigitale* [1]. Additionally, almost all entities phenotypically quoted as *T. mentagrophytes* are actually the old taxa of *T. mentagrophytes* var. *mentagrophytes* or var. *granulosum* which currently synonymized with *T. interdigitale* species [1,4]. Likewise, according to the biological and molecular findings, today it is known that *T. mentagrophytes* sp. is synonymous only with the zoophilic variants and species formerly recognized as *T. mentagrophytes* var. *quinckeanum*, *T. langeronii* and *T. sarkisovii*. Regarding to the issues under comments, the actual

prevalence of *T. verrucosum*, *T. mentagrophytes* and *T. interdigitale* species in many recently published studies is questionable. To realize any change in the distribution pattern of dermatophytes, DNA-based procedures and new classification must be considered.

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Figure 1: The colony appearance of four dermatophyte strains that morphologically were reported as *Trichophyton verrucosum* but sequencing specified them as *T. interdigitale*

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