

**A STUDY ON ORAL CANDIDIASIS IN  
DIFFERENT STAGES OF TREATMENT  
IN PEDIATRIC LEUKEMIC PATIENTS**

**A thesis  
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## Abstract

Forty pediatric leukemic patients were examined at initial diagnosis, during therapy, or during follow up evaluation. The samples were selected by using systematic random sampling, one every 5<sup>th</sup> child.

All leukemic patients that enrolled in the present study were of acute type (Acute lymphoblastic leukemia and Acute myeloid leukemia).

Forty children matched for age and sex who had no hematological malignancy or other chronic diseases were used as controls.

Swabs were collected from patients who participated in this study by gently rubbing a sterile cotton swab over the buccal mucosa, dorsal and ventral surfaces of the tongue. Two swabs were collected from each patient, one was inoculated on a primary isolation medium (Sabouraud's dextrose agar) which was sealed tightly and incubated at 37 °C for 48 hrs. The degree of colonization was defined by the number of fungal colonies on sabouraud's media. The other specimen was inoculated in a blood agar which was incubated at the same temperature for the same period. Positive cultures were evaluated for germ tube formation for identification of *Candida albicans* species. Germ tube negative isolates will identified as non-*Candida albicans*

Forty leukemic children with age ranged between 4-14 years old were studied for the incidence of candidal infection over a period of 10 months ,33(82.5%)of them

**were found to have candidal infection, While regarding control only 11(27.5%) children found to have candidal infection.**

**Statistical analysis of the results showed that leukemic patient have highly significant risk to develop candidal infection as compared to control group.**

**According to the types of culture media that we selected in our study, The results showed that, the subouraud'dextrose agar have high sensitivity for candidal growth than blood agar and the statistical analysis using t-test was highly significant**