**Chapter 1**

**Evaluation of *C. glabrata* growth, treated with antifungal drug under different environmental conditions.**

**Introduction**

Antifungal drugs mount selective pressure on the organisms, leading to survival of only those cells that acquire resistance. However, currently available antifungal drugs are mainly fungistatic rather than fungicidal empowering the pathogenic fungal cells to quickly adapt to hostile environments by few genetic modification and improved genome plasticity. The fungistatic nature of these drugs initiates strong directional selection for evolution of resistant strains.

Frequent use of azoles as prophylactic agent in high-risk patients have significantly risen antifungal drug resistance in *C. glabrata* but not in other Candida species (Wiederhold, 2017). Gain of function mutation of transcription regulator PDR1 inducing expression drug efflux pump (Cdr1, Cdr2, Snq2 and Qdr2) is widely discussed mechanism conferring antifungal drug resistance and enhanced virulence (Sanguinetti et al., 2005; Vermitsky and Edlind, 2004). Additionally, mitochondrial dysfunctional has been linked with drug resistance by promoting expression of PDR1 (Defontaine et al., 1999; Ferrari et al., 2011). Another study have highlighted role of calcium signaling in azole resistance as calcium depletion switches fluconazole from fungistatic to fungicidal (Kaur et al., 2004). These and many other studies highlight core mechanism underlying antifungal resistance and virulence, however how the mechanisms evolved with respect to each environment is poorly investigated. Here we attempt to elucidate effect different environmental condition on *C. glabrata,* to adapt and resist antifungal drugs.

**Results**

1. **Oxidative stress treated *C. glabrata* cells elevated resistance to fluconazole**
2. ***C. glabrata* cells exhibits different growth profile under different growth medium**
3. **Fluconazole effect varies with glucose concentration**
4. **Cells growing in acidic pH are more resistant to Fluconazole than alkaline**
5. **Pre-exposure to Fluconazole improves resistance against higher concentration of Fluconazole**
6. **Days affect flu effect**