

CANDIDA KEFYR

SCIENTIFIC CLASSIFICATION	
Kingdom	Fungi
Division	Ascomycota
Class	Saccharomycetes
Order	Saccharomycetales
Family	Saccharomycetaceae
Genus	Candida
Species	C.kefyr



Candida kefyr. *K. marxianus* is used commercially to produce the lactase enzyme similar to the use of other fungi such as those in the genus *Aspergillus*. It is produced as a nutritional yeast and bonding agent for fodder and pet food, and as a source of ribonucleic acid in pharmaceuticals. *Candida kefyr* is an emerging pathogen among patients with hematologic malignancies (HM). *Candida kefyr* (formerly *Candida pseudotropicalis*) is a yeast with its teleomorph currently recognized as *Kluyveromyces marxianus*. The latter was first isolated from kefir in 1909 and reported under the obsolete name *Saccharomyces fragilis*. The ecology of this yeast is not fully understood, although it appears to thrive in diverse habitats, including dairy products. The epidemiology of this organism is characterized by a strong seasonality that suggests potential acquisition by exogenous exposure.