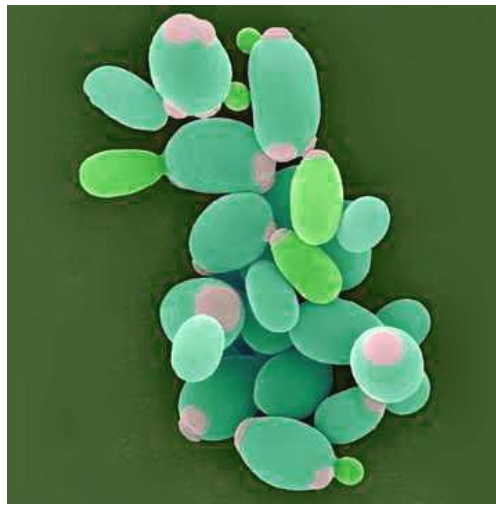


CANDIDA PARAPSILOSIS

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



Candida parapsilosis is an emerging major human pathogen that has dramatically increased in significance and prevalence over the past 2 decades, such that *C. parapsilosis* is now one of the leading causes of invasive candidal disease. Individuals at the highest risk for severe infection include neonates and patients in intensive care units. *C. parapsilosis* infections are especially associated with hyperalimentation solutions, prosthetic devices, and indwelling catheters, as well as the nosocomial spread of disease through the hands of health care workers. Factors involved in disease pathogenesis include the secretion of hydrolytic enzymes, adhesion to prosthetics, and biofilm formation. New molecular genetic tools are providing additional and much-needed information regarding *C. parapsilosis* virulence.