

Chapter 14

CASE STUDY 14.1 *Candida* septicaemia

- How would the samples have been processed and what media used?

Culture onto Sabouraud agar and/or chromogenic agar for yeasts as could be mixed infection. Culture onto conventional media for bacterial pathogens such as *S.aureus*.

- What tests would you perform to identify the suspect organism?

Germ tube to determine if the organism is *Candida albicans*. Alternatively, MALDI-TOF.

- What are the risk factors in this patient for a *Candida* infection?

Patient is diabetic which increases the risk of *Candida* infection. Also bowel surgery raises the risk.

- Why do you think *C. glabrata* was isolated from this patient?

The organism is intrinsically (naturally) resistant to fluconazole.

- What test led to the change in antifungal therapy and why?

Negative germ tube and organism's colonial appearance on chromogenic agar. Lack of response to fluconazole.
