

CORRESPONDENCE

PATHOGENIC FUNGI IN BIRD EXCRETA: A FORGOTTEN PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM

October 31, 2014

Dear editor,

The recent report on “fungi in bird excreta” is very interesting¹. MENDES *et al.* found many contaminated fungi in the samples, and mentioned for the requirement for public health concern preventive measures, such as “proper cleaning of cages¹”. In fact, the concern of fungi contamination in bird excreta should be raised. It is usually forgotten. In uncaged bird, the contamination might be more problematic since it is not possible to effectively clean. In our experience, the examination of bird excreta from public yard, showed that up to 9.09% of the samples were contaminated with pathogenic fungi. To set a system to control bird excreta and surveillance of pathogen contamination in excreta should be an important topic for any community.

Beuy JOOB (1)

Viroj WIWANITKIT (2)

(1) Sanitation 1 Medical Academic Center, Bangkok Thailand

(2) Visiting professor, Hainan Medical University, China

Correspondence to: Beuy Joob

Sanitation 1 Medical Academic Center, Bangkok Thailand

E-mail: wviroj@yahoo.com

REFERENCES

1. Mendes JF, Albano AP, Coimbra MA, Ferreira GF, Gonçalves CL, Nascente P da S, *et al.* Fungi isolated from the excreta of wild birds in screening centers in Pelotas, RS, Brazil. Rev Inst Med Trop Sao Paulo. 2014;56:525-8.
2. Soogarun S, Wiwanitkit V, Palasuwan A, Pradnawat P, Suwansaksri J, Lertlum T, *et al.* Detection of *Cryptococcus neoformans* in bird excreta. Southeast Asian J Trop Med Public Health. 2006;37:768-70.