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(Short Course)

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Special Course in Medical and Veterinary Mycology is organised annually for students from Europe (normally integrated with their professional practice), or from other continents (generally in combination with other courses at the ITM or elsewhere in Belgium). Due to an increase in the incidence of opportunistic fungal infections (as a complication of immunosuppression cancer and AIDS) the demand for this course is growing constantly.

2. OBJECTIVES

Participants are given a broad and actualised overview of the field of medically important fungal diseases (fungi and yeasts): besides a thorough study of the most important infectious agents of dermatomycoses. The course also provides an understanding of new problems of life threatening candidiasis, aspergillus infections and other invasive fungal hospital infections. The course will also deal with cosmopolitan and more exotic fungal infections which have become more important due to the AIDS pandemic. A substantial part of the course consists of practical exercises because, in mycology, expertise depends to a great extent on hands-on experience with macroscopic and microscopic features of cultures in specific media.

3. COURSE PROGRAMME

- General mycology: morphology, identification, classification.
- Medical mycology: aetiology, ecology, clinical features, diagnosis and treatment of different fungal infections.

4. DIPLOMA

A certificate in Medical and Veterinary Mycology will be awarded to participants who pass both the theoretical and practical exam.

5. DURATION OF THE COURSE

The programme is organised each year between March and June, 1 day per week. In the morning there are theoretical introductions (2,5 hours) while the afternoon is dedicated to laboratory practice (4 hours). This course is organised in Dutch and French only.

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6. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Candidates have to be holder of a university degree (medicine, pharmacology, biology, veterinary sciences, bioengineering) or medical laboratory technologists. There are maximum 20 candidates per group. Deadline for applications is 31 January 2010.

7. ACCREDITATION

In 2007/2008, this course represented 350 points within the Belgian CME system.

8. TUITION FEE AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Information on the exact fee and scholarships is available from the general ITM course overview, our website www.itg.be or from ITM Student Service through education@itg.be. Your registration fee should be paid into the ITM's account nr. 220-0531111-72 (Fortis, Warandeberg 3, 1000 Brussel), BIC/SWIFT : GEBABEBB, IBAN BE 38 2200 5311 1172. Bank charges are at the expense of the applicant.