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The geographic diversity of nontuberculous mycobacteria isolated from pulmonary samples collaborative study.

[Hoefsloot W, van Ingen J, Andrejak C, Angeby K, Bauriaud R, Bemer P, Beylis N, Boeree MJ, Cacho J, Chihota V, Chimara E, C Daley CL, Dekhuijzen PN, Domingo D, Drobniewski F, Esteban J, Fauville-Dufaux M, Folkvardsen DB, Gibbons N, Gómez-Man H, Hsueh PR, Indra A, Jagielski T, Jamieson F, Jankovic M, Jong E, Keane J, Koh WJ, Lange B, Leao S, Macedo R, Mannsaker Milburn HJ, Mlinko T, Morcillo N, Morimoto K, Papaventsis D, Palenque E, Paez-Peña M, Piersimoni C, Polanova M, Rastogi N, A, da Silva MP, Simsek H, van Soolingen D, Szabó N, Thomson R, Tórtola Fernandez T, Tortoli E, Totten SE, Tyrrell G, Vasanka Winthrop KL, Wagner D; Nontuberculous Mycobacteria Network European Trials Group \(NTM-NET\).](#)

Author information

Abstract

A significant knowledge gap exists concerning the geographical distribution of nontuberculous mycobacteria (NTM) isolates. A snapshot of NTM species distribution, global partners in the NTM-Network European Trials Group (NET) framework (www.TuberculosisNetworkEuropeanTrialsGroup(TB-NET)), provided identification results of the total number of patients in 182 countries who were isolated from pulmonary samples. From these data, we visualised the relative distribution of the different NTM found per received species identification data for 20 182 patients, from 62 laboratories in 30 countries across six continents. 91 different species were isolated. Mycobacterium avium complex (MAC) bacteria predominated in most countries, followed by M. goodii and M. abscessus. Differences in geographical distribution of MAC species as well as M. xenopi, M. kansasii and rapid-growing mycobacteria were observed. This snapshot demonstrates that the species distribution among NTM isolates from pulmonary specimens in the year 2008 differed by country within these continents. These differences in species distribution may partly determine the frequency of pulmonary NTM disease in each geographical location.

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