

Beware of alternate names for *Candida* species

Candida species may have two names that correlate to the growth state of the fungus: an anamorph name associated with asexual growth and replication (mitosis only) of the fungus and a teleomorph name associated with the sexual growth and replication. Examples of dual names are listed below. Certain identification methods (e.g., MALDI-TOF or DNA sequencing) may identify the organism only by its teleomorph name, which may not include the word *Candida* even though this organism is indeed a species of *Candida*.

The table below is intended to help laboratory workers understand which *Candida* yeasts have multiple names.

Alternate names for select *Candida* species

Teleomorph name	Anamorph name
<i>Wickerhamomyces anomalus</i>	<i>Candida pelliculosa</i>
<i>Clavispora lusitaniae</i>	<i>Candida lusitaniae</i>
<i>Meyerozyma guilliermondii</i>	<i>Candida guilliermondii</i>
<i>Kluyveromyces marxianus</i>	<i>Candida kefyr</i>
<i>Pichia kudriavzevii</i>	<i>Candida krusei</i>
<i>Pichia caribbica</i> / <i>Meyerozyma caribbica</i>	<i>Candida fermentati</i>
<i>Kodamaea ohmeri</i>	<i>Candida guilliermondii</i> var <i>membranifaciens</i>
<i>Yarrowia lipolytica</i>	<i>Candida lipolytica</i>
<i>Cyberlindnera fabianii</i>	<i>Candida fabianii</i>
<i>Debaryozyma hansenii</i>	<i>Candida famata</i>
<i>Pichia fermentans</i>	<i>Candida lambica</i>
<i>Pichia norvegensis</i>	<i>Candida norvegensis</i>
<i>Cyberlindnera jadinii</i>	<i>Candida utilis</i>

More information

In the new standard M64 the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute will recommend that the teleomorph name, when is the more common name used by clinicians, should be used in laboratory reports. A note can be added to the report such as “This isolate is also identified by the teleomorph name xxx”.

References

Daniel HM, Lachance MA, Kurtzman CP. On the reclassification of species assigned to *Candida* and other anamorphic ascomycetous yeast genera based on phylogenetic circumscription. *Antonie Van Leeuwenhoek* 2014;106(1):67-84.

Hawksworth D. L. A new dawn for the naming of fungi: impacts of decisions made in Melbourne in July 2011 on the future publication and regulation of fungal names. *MycKeys* 2011;2(2):155-62.