Chapter 5

CONCLUSION

Oral candidiasis is the major opportunistic infection and the most prevalent oral lesion in HIV-infected patients. Typing or identification of the causing pathogen is the strategy for treatment and prevention. For the phenotyping method in this study, biotyping and antifungal susceptibility testing are proved to be reliable because of their reproducibility. RAPD method with dendrogram genesis is specific and practical method for large-scale genotypic study. The dendrogram data can also be used for further analysis or comparison with other data sources.

From the result of genotypic diversity among *C. albicans* strains in the group of HIV-infected patients and association of MICs with the host, these can be concluded that the origin of causative strains is from commensal strains. And antifungal drug resistance can develop individually. The results are therefore supported the hypothesis of "persistence" or "endogenous source of infection".

Because of no association among these three typing methods, this indicates that each method has its ability in epidemiological study depending on the laboratory facilities and researcher's purpose. Despite genotyping method is the most specific method in taxonomy, biotyping and antifungal susceptibility test are still useful in both epidemiological study and clinical application particularly in drug resistance.