

## Appendix N

### Case History # 6

Directions: Read the following case history and answer the questions, using your textbook, any available reference books and information from your lab exercises, as well as your notes from both the lab and lecture material and the Internet. (Questions = 0.5 point each, Total = 3 pts)

A 25 year old woman who was being treated for breast cancer went to her doctor complaining of a sore mouth and difficulty swallowing. The doctor examined her mouth and found white patches on the inside as well as on her tongue. The white patches looked like cottage cheese or milk curds.

The doctor was able to make his diagnosis based on the physical examination, but decided to take a culture and send it to the clinical laboratory for definitive identification.

The laboratory made a wet mount of the sample and observed clusters of budding yeast cells, and pseudohyphae. Pseudohyphae are a series of buds remaining attached to the parent cell and appearing as filamentous hypha. The laboratory was able to make a presumptive identification of the type of yeast so the doctor could start treatment. The doctor prescribed a topical imidazole treatment. The patient noticed improvement after two weeks.

1. What was the diagnosis that the doctor could make based on his observations?
2. What is the name of the yeast that was identified (*Genus species*)?
3. Where is this yeast normally found?
4. What is the most likely reason this cancer patient got the disease?
5. What is the drug of choice if the topical treatment did not work?
6. List the references used to answer these questions. At least one reference should be a textbook.