

Analysis of clinical *Candida parapsilosis* isolates reveals copy number variation in key fluconazole resistance genes

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Running head: CNVs in fluconazole resistance genes

1 **Abstract**

2 We used whole-genome sequencing to analyse a collection of 35 fluconazole
3 resistant and 7 susceptible *Candida parapsilosis* isolates together with coverage
4 analysis and GWAS techniques to identify new mechanisms of fluconazole
5 resistance. Phylogenetic analysis shows that although the collection is diverse, two
6 probable outbreak groups were identified. We identified copy number variation of two
7 genes, *ERG11* and *CDR1B*, in resistant isolates. Two strains have a CNV at the
8 *ERG11* locus; the entire ORF is amplified in one, and only the promoter region is
9 amplified in the other. We show the annotated telomeric gene *CDR1B* is actually an
10 artefactual *in silico* fusion of two highly similar neighbouring *CDR* genes due to an
11 assembly error in the *C. parapsilosis* CDC317 reference genome. We report highly
12 variable copy numbers of the *CDR1B* region across the collection. Several strains
13 have increased expansion of the two genes into a tandem array of new chimeric
14 genes. Other strains have experienced a deletion between the two genes creating a
15 single gene with a reciprocal chimerism. We find translocations, duplications, and
16 gene conversion across the *CDR* gene family in the *C. parapsilosis* species complex,
17 showing that it is a highly dynamic family.

18 **Introduction**

19 *Candida parapsilosis* is a human fungal pathogen that is globally one of the most
20 common sources of non-*albicans* *Candida* infections (1, 2). In the decade 2006-
21 2016, *C. parapsilosis* accounted for ~16% of all candidemia cases (3). Traditionally,
22 *C. parapsilosis* was predominantly found in immunocompromised patients such as
23 transplant recipients or preterm neonates (4, 5). More recently, however, cases have
24 seen a rise in adult patients in non-surgical wards (6, 7). *C. parapsilosis*, and its
25 sister species *Candida orthopsis* and *Candida metapsilosis*, belong to the CUG-
26 Ser1 clade along with other major fungal pathogens *Candida albicans*, *Candida*
27 *dubliniensis*, and *Candida tropicalis* (8). Unlike its sister species and other members
28 of this clade, *C. parapsilosis* is assumed to be completely asexual due to its high
29 homozygosity, pseudogenisation of *MAT* α , and the lack of a *MAT* α idiomorph (9, 10).

30 Outbreaks of *C. parapsilosis* have been associated with variants conferring
31 resistance to common antifungal drugs, including fluconazole, a triazole (11).
32 Fluconazole binds to the enzyme lanosterol 14alpha-demethylase, encoded by the
33 gene *ERG11*. This enzyme plays a key role in the ergosterol biosynthesis pathway,
34 which is inhibited by the binding of fluconazole (12-14). Ergosterol is a key
35 component of the fungal cell membrane and in its absence, and with accumulation of
36 alternate sterols, cell growth is arrested (15, 16). Resistance to fluconazole treatment
37 is a growing trend in clinical *Candida* spp. isolates (17). In *C. parapsilosis* resistance
38 is particularly associated with the Y132F substitution in *ERG11* that contributes
39 directly to resistance (18) and has been implicated in many fluconazole-resistant
40 outbreak events across the world (19-24). Equivalent mutations also contribute to
41 fluconazole resistance in *C. albicans*, *C. tropicalis*, and *Candida auris* (25-29).

42 Most of our understanding of other mechanisms of fluconazole resistance in *Candida*
43 species, including the role of other substitutions in *ERG11*, comes from studies in *C.*
44 *albicans* (13, 14, 26, 29). Overexpression of *ERG11*, often by gain-of-function
45 mutations in the transcriptional regulator *UPC2*, has been implicated in resistance in
46 *C. albicans* (30-32). In addition, azole resistance is due in part to overexpression of
47 drug efflux pumps (33-35). In *C. albicans*, the contribution of two drug efflux pumps
48 encoded by *CDR1* and *CDR2* that both belong to the ABC transporter (CDR) family
49 to fluconazole resistance has been well studied (33). In the absence of drugs *CDR1*
50 is expressed while *CDR2* is not (36). However, expression of both genes is
51 upregulated in some resistant strains due to activating mutations in *TAC1*, a gene
52 encoding a transcriptional regulator (18, 37, 38). Likewise, overexpression of *MDR1*,
53 which encodes a transporter of the Major Facilitator Superfamily, is overexpressed in
54 some isolates due to activating mutations in *MRR1*, encoding another transcriptional
55 regulator (39). Overexpression of homologs of *CDR1* and *MDR1* have also been
56 found to contribute to resistance in some *C. parapsilosis* clinical isolates that contain
57 similar activating mutations in *TAC1* and *MRR1* (18, 40, 41). Often, multiple
58 resistance mechanisms are found to act in concert in the same isolate leading to
59 high level resistance (42, 43).

60 In this study we investigate the genetic mechanisms underlying fluconazole
61 resistance in 42 *C. parapsilosis* isolates. Fluconazole resistance has previously been

62 studied in 34 of these isolates using targeted gene sequencing and gene expression
63 analysis (18, 40, 41). Mutations in *ERG11* and over-expression of drug transporters
64 were identified in some isolates. However, some isolates that share the same azole
65 resistance-associated mutation exhibit a range of MIC values, and for other isolates,
66 no obvious resistance mechanisms were identified. Here we use whole genome
67 sequencing, coverage analysis and GWAS methods to identify point mutations and
68 copy number variants (CNVs) associated with novel mechanisms of fluconazole
69 resistance. Using phylogenomic methods, we also identify two probable outbreak
70 clades, from Bloemfontein and Johannesburg, South Africa.

71 **Results**

72 **Phylogeny and two outbreak clades**

73 Azole resistance mechanisms have previously been studied in 34 fluconazole
74 resistant (MIC \geq 8 μ g/ml) and three fluconazole sensitive (MIC \leq 2 μ g/ml) isolates of
75 *C. parapsilosis* included in this study (18, 40, 41). To improve the power of the
76 analysis (especially for GWAS), we sequenced all 37 genomes, and included one
77 more resistant isolate CDC317 (the reference strain for *C. parapsilosis*) and four
78 susceptible isolates 73/037, 73/114, FM16 and MSK809 (44). The isolates originate
79 from several geographical locations, including several collected from two cities in
80 South Africa between 2001 and 2009 (Johannesburg and Bloemfontein, Table 1).
81 Phylogenomic analysis shows that the isolates represent a broad range of the *C.*
82 *parapsilosis* phylogeny, as seen when integrated into a tree containing >200 other
83 strains (Fig. S1) (44). Resistant isolates fall into each of the five global clades of *C.*
84 *parapsilosis* that we have previously identified (44), and susceptible isolates belong
85 to four out of five clades. Despite this breadth, two groups of isolates have very
86 shallow branches, indicating that they have a very close relationship (Fig. 1). The
87 clade marked by a single asterisk contains isolates all originating from the same
88 clinic in Bloemfontein (Table 1). For the clade marked with double asterisks, one
89 isolate comes from Ann Arbor, Michigan whereas the rest originate from a clinic in
90 Johannesburg, collected over a period of eight years. These clades indicate
91 putative outbreaks in the South African clinics.

92 For 34 of the fluconazole-resistant isolates, multiple potential resistance mechanisms
93 were previously identified using gene expression analysis (RT-qPCR) and targeted
94 gene sequencing (18, 40, 41) (Table 1). To improve the resolution we measured the
95 expression of target genes using RNA-seq, by comparing to the expression of the
96 genes in the azole susceptible isolate Cp13 (Table 1). The RNA-seq data supports
97 the previous analysis (40, 41). For example, overexpression of drug transporter
98 *CPAR2_603010 (MDR1B)* in strains from Bloemfontein (\log_2FC ranging from 1.8 to
99 5.3, Table 1), mediated at least in part by the A854V activating mutation in the
100 regulator gene *CPAR2_807270 (MRR1)*, contributes directly to resistance to
101 fluconazole (41). Some Bloemfontein strains have increased expression of *MDR1B*
102 but do not have a corresponding *MRR1* mutation (e.g. Cp11, Table 1) (41).
103 Strikingly, the isolate homozygous for A854V, Cp29, has much higher expression of
104 both *MDR1B* ($\log_2FC = 5.28$) and *CDR1B* ($\log_2FC = 2.18$) compared to the other
105 Bloemfontein strains. In addition, mutations in the ergosterol-biosynthesis gene
106 *CPAR2_303740 (ERG11)* and the *CDR*-family regulator *CPAR2_303510 (TAC1)*
107 were shown to contribute to fluconazole resistance in other isolates (40).

108 Fourteen strains (including the reference strain *C. parapsilosis* CDC317) harbour the
109 *ERG11* Y132F substitution which is a well-documented resistance mutation (11, 17,
110 18, 25, 45). The Y132F substitution is heterozygous in CDC317 and in Cp4, and
111 homozygous in the other 12. The isolates from Johannesburg all have the Y132F
112 mutation (including the heterozygous Cp4), but the isolates from Bloemfontein do not
113 (Table 1).

114 Eight of the 35 resistant strains do not have any mutations in *ERG11*, *TAC1*, or
115 *MRR1* that have been experimentally determined to affect fluconazole resistance
116 (Table 1). The R398I mutation in *ERG11* has been frequently observed occurring in
117 tandem with Y132F (21, 23), but has also been found without Y132F in susceptible
118 isolates (40). The substitutions A854V, R479K, and I283R in *MRR1* have all been
119 identified as activating mutations leading to the upregulation of genes including
120 *CDR1B*, and *MDR1B* (46). The *TAC1* G650E mutation has shown to increase
121 fluconazole resistance and overexpress *CDR1* and *CDR1B* when introduced into a
122 susceptible isolate (18). In addition, among this collection of isolates, strains that
123 share the same mutation can differ 32-fold in their MIC values (e.g. isolates in the

124 Johannesburg clade have MICs varying from 8 to 256 µg/ml, Table 1). This suggests
125 that novel resistance mechanisms remain to be identified, and that different
126 mechanisms may have additive effects that have not been captured by these
127 studies.

128 **Copy number variation of *ERG11***

129 We found that aneuploidy is relatively common in the 42 isolates; 13 have either
130 segmental or whole chromosome aneuploidies (Fig. S2), and several isolates have
131 aneuploidies of multiple chromosomes. However, unlike in *C. albicans* where
132 aneuploidy of the chromosome containing *ERG11* and *TAC1* has been associated
133 with fluconazole resistance (47-49), none of the resistant strains in the collection
134 have extra copies of chromosome 3. Several resistant strains have aneuploidy of
135 chromosome 5, which contains the *ERG4* gene. The potential role of *ERG4* in
136 fluconazole resistance in *Candida spp.* has not been well characterised, but the gene
137 has been found overexpressed alongside *ERG11* in azole-resistant *C. albicans* (50).

138 We found that two resistant strains, Cp15 and Cp27, have small CNVs at the *ERG11*
139 locus on chromosome 3 (Fig. 2). In Cp27, the entire coding sequence of both *ERG11*
140 and the upstream gene (*HMS1*), and part of the downstream gene (*THR1*), has been
141 amplified by the CNV (1,309,908-1,315,502 bp). Here, the locus has been amplified
142 to nine copies. Short read mate-pair mapping supports the interpretation that this
143 CNV is a tandem array of duplicated sequence. In Cp15, a 341 bp section of the
144 *ERG11* promoter region is amplified to eight copies (1,312,556-1,312,896 bp). Cp15
145 and Cp27 are the only two isolates in this collection with increased expression of
146 *ERG11* (Table 1). As far as we are aware, this is the first time that an amplification of
147 an *ERG11* promoter has been observed in any *Candida* species.

148 **Genome Wide Association Study**

149 We performed a Genome Wide Association Study (GWAS) using all 42 isolates to
150 identify potential variants associated with fluconazole resistance that had not been
151 found in earlier studies. The GWAS was carried out using GEMMA (Genome-wide
152 Efficient Mixed Model Association) (51), which calculates and incorporates
153 relatedness data between isolates in order to minimise the confounding effect of

154 population structure on association scores. Because the MIC assays for fluconazole
155 were measured in two different laboratories (Table 1), the phenotypic data was
156 converted to a binary score of either resistant or susceptible to reduce possible bias,
157 with MIC \leq 2 μ g/ml classed as susceptible and MIC \geq 8 μ g/ml classed as resistant, in
158 line with CLSI (52) and EUCAST (53) guidelines. Genotypes were also converted
159 into binary presence/absence of non-reference alleles, with both heterozygous and
160 homozygous variants treated as present. In addition, only variants that were
161 predicted to affect protein function by SIFT (54) were included in the analysis to
162 narrow the search. In total, 7462 variants were used as input to GEMMA. The GWAS
163 analysis did not identify any significant associations below the Bonferroni-corrected
164 p-value threshold of 6.7×10^{-6} (Table S1). However, several of the variants with the
165 lowest p-value scores were in *CPAR2_405290* (*CDR1*) and *CPAR2_304370*
166 (*CDR1B*), members of the ABC family of putative drug transporters. Investigating the
167 alignments leading to these calls showed that the *CPAR2_405290* variants are likely
168 a result of mismapping from a similar gene in the genome, so we did not investigate
169 *CPAR2_405290* further. Overexpression of *CPAR2_304370* (*CDR1B*) has previously
170 been observed in fluconazole-resistant isolates and shown to directly contribute to
171 this phenotype (40, 41, 46). In a study investigating acquired azole resistance in
172 consecutive isolates taken from a patient undergoing fluconazole treatment, one
173 isolate with reduced susceptibility to fluconazole had undergone amplification of the
174 *CDR1B* locus, from 4 to \sim 15 copies (46). We therefore investigated the *CDR1B*
175 locus in more depth.

176

177 **The *CDR1B* locus contains two genes, *CDR1B.1* and *CDR1B.2*, and is amplified**
178 **in resistant isolates**

179 While further characterising the role of *CPAR2_304370* (the annotated *CDR1B* gene
180 in the reference genome assembly) in azole resistance, we noticed an increased
181 sequence coverage compared to genomic average in most of the isolates. We used
182 the average coverage across the ORF to estimate the copy number of this gene in
183 each of the isolates. Whereas a majority (25/42) of the isolates have a copy number
184 in the range 4-6x, there are several outliers ranging up to 33x, and only three
185 isolates have the expected value of 2x (Fig. 1). Several isolates that have increased
186 expression of *CDR1B* but no corresponding *MRR1* gain-of-function mutation have

187 increased copy number of *CDR1B*, suggesting that amplification of this locus and
188 activating mutations in upstream regulators can both drive overexpression of this
189 gene. Strikingly two of the three isolates with two copies of the locus are susceptible
190 to fluconazole, and no susceptible isolate has more than five copies.

191 Of special note is the clade containing *C. parapsilosis* FM16, CDC317, and Cp14
192 (Fig. 1). FM16 is susceptible to fluconazole and has only two copies of
193 *CPAR2_304370*. CDC317 and Cp14 are both fluconazole resistant. CDC317 has
194 only 5 copies of *CPAR2_304370*. However, CDC317 is heterozygous for a Y132F
195 mutation in *ERG11* that is not present in Cp14 (Table 1). In contrast, Cp14 has 16
196 copies of *CPAR2_304370*. We propose that the related isolates Cp14 and CDC317
197 acquired resistance by differing mechanisms, the former by acquiring a mutation in
198 *ERG11*, and the latter through increased copy number of *CPAR2_304370*.

199 The MIC values of the isolates from the Johannesburg outbreak range from 16-256
200 µg/ml (18) (Table 1). Two related isolates (Cp38 and Cp35) with MICs of 32 µg/ml
201 have acquired a G650E substitution in *TAC1*, resulting in increased expression of
202 *CDR1* (Table 1) (18). The combination of Y132F in *ERG11* and G650E in *TAC1*
203 likely increases resistance compared to each variant alone (18). The copy number of
204 *CDR1B* is highly variable in the Johannesburg isolates, ranging from 6-33x (Fig. 1).
205 Whereas there is no direct correlation between the copy number of *CDR1B* and MIC
206 in these isolates, it is notable that Cp37 has the highest MIC (256 µg/ml) and the
207 highest number of *CDR1B* copies (~33).

208 Long-read (Oxford Nanopore) sequencing of CDC317 revealed that the
209 *CPAR2_304370* gene annotated in the Sanger sequencing reference genome
210 assembly of this strain was in fact erroneously assembled by fusing together two
211 highly similar tandem genes, which we now call *CDR1B.1* and *CDR1B.2* (Fig. 3A).
212 As a result, the intergenic space between these two genes, and parts of the genes
213 themselves, are not present in the original reference assembly. It is likely that the
214 presence of *CDR1B.1* and *CDR1B.2* is the ancestral (and most common) state of the
215 locus in *C. parapsilosis* (Fig. 3A), and that the four copies of *CPAR2_304370*
216 indicated in many of the isolates by coverage analysis relative to the reference
217 genome assembly in fact represent diploids with two copies of both *CDR1B.1* and

218 *CDR1B.2* (Fig. 1). We used the long sequencing reads, alongside short reads, to
219 generate a highly accurate, complete chromosome assembly of CDC317. This
220 assembly confirmed that CDC317 has two copies each of *CDR1B.1* and *CDR1B.2*,
221 so the previously estimated copy number of 5x *CPAR2_304370* (Fig. 1) was likely
222 inflated by short reads mismapping from related genes. Using the new accurate
223 assembly of CDC317, we found that *CDR1B.1* and *CDR1B.2* are 98.69% identical at
224 the nucleotide level and the intergenic regions upstream of both genes are 46.10%
225 identical. The two genes differ by only 23 amino acids (out of 1498) when translated.

226 Significantly, short reads from isolate FM16 (estimated to have two copies of
227 *CPAR2_304370*) map to the original *C. parapsilosis* CDC317 reference genome
228 without an increase in coverage or misaligned read pairs (Fig. 3B). This is evidence
229 of an array contraction of the two genes in FM16 that results in a single chimeric
230 *CDR1B.2/CDR1B.1* gene, biologically mirroring the misassembly in the original
231 reference. Short read alignments of Cp36 and Cp5 suggest that similar array
232 contractions occurred in these isolates.

233 Long-read sequencing of Cp14 revealed that the extra copies predicted by coverage
234 analysis (16x *CPAR2_304370*) are the result of a tandem array of identical chimeric
235 *CDR1B.1/CDR1B.2* genes, bounded upstream by non-chimeric *CDR1B.2* and
236 downstream by non-chimeric *CDR1B.1* (Fig. 3A). These chimeric genes inherited
237 their 5' region from *CDR1B.1* and their 3' region from *CDR1B.2*. In this manner they
238 are opposite to the chimeric gene in FM16. None of the Cp14 long sequencing reads
239 reached across the entire tandem array, so the exact copy number of the chimeric
240 genes could not be determined. However, by aligning the reads to the long-read
241 assembly of CDC317, we found reads that contain the beginning, middle, and end of
242 the tandem array (Fig. 3C).

243 **Families of *CDR* orthologs and paralogs in the *C. parapsilosis* clade**

244 *CDR1B.1* and *CDR1B.2* are two of nine *CDR* genes in *C. parapsilosis* (Fig. 4).
245 Strikingly, most (5/9) of these genes are located in telomeric regions. Many of the
246 *CDR* genes in *C. parapsilosis*, including all five telomeric ones, have direct orthologs
247 in *C. metapsilosis* and *C. orthopsilosis* but they are more distantly related to *C.*
248 *albicans* *CDR* genes. The *CDR* orthologs in *C. metapsilosis* and *C. orthopsilosis*

249 share synteny of neighbouring genes when compared to the gene order of *C.*
250 *parapsilosis*. The telomeric *CDR* genes are likely to have originated after *C.*
251 *parapsilosis* diverged from the *C. albicans* lineage, but before the separation of *C.*
252 *parapsilosis* from *C. orthopsilosis* and *C. metapsilosis*. In addition, a recent gene
253 duplication in *C. parapsilosis* produced the gene pair
254 *CPAR2_300010/CPAR2_603800* which are duplicated only in this species, while the
255 *CDR1B.1/CDR1B.2* gene pair has a more complicated history.

256 *C. metapsilosis* has only a single gene (*CMET_1082*) at the *CDR1B* locus, which is
257 equally related to the two *C. parapsilosis* *CDR1B* genes (Fig. 4; genes highlighted in
258 pink). Long-read sequences of the reference *C. metapsilosis* strain BP57, recently
259 assembled by Mixão et al. (52), indicate that this is not due to misassembly. There
260 are two *CDR* genes present at the *CDR1B* locus in *C. orthopsilosis*, but interestingly
261 only one of them (*CORT1E06580*) falls phylogenetically into the same clade as *C.*
262 *parapsilosis* *CDR1B.1* and *CDR1B.2* and *C. metapsilosis* *CMET_1082*, while its
263 neighbour (*CORT1E06570*) falls into an adjacent clade with *CMET_1071* and two *C.*
264 *parapsilosis* genes *CPAR2_300010* and *CPAR2_603800* (Fig. 4). Notably, the
265 *CDR1B* locus, *CPAR2_300010* and *CPAR2_603800* are all telomeric on different
266 chromosomes of *C. parapsilosis*, so we suggest there may have been some *CDR*
267 gene exchange and/or homogenization among telomeric regions within these
268 species.

269 We did not observe CNVs affecting any of the other *CDR* genes in *C. parapsilosis*,
270 nor in 36 *C. orthopsilosis* or 30 *C. metapsilosis* isolates that we analyzed. The
271 *CDR1B* locus of *C. parapsilosis* is unique among the *CDR* genes of these three
272 species in having two highly similar genes in tandem, which provides a template for
273 amplification of the locus to occur readily.

274 Discussion

275 Using a genome-wide approach, we identified two CNVs (*ERG11* and
276 *CDR1B.1/CDR1B.2*) that are associated with fluconazole resistance in *C.*
277 *parapsilosis*. CNVs are a method of gene duplication by which an organism can
278 transiently adapt to its environment (53, 54). Environmental changes, such as
279 introduction of an antifungal drug, can select for specific genes to be duplicated, and

280 thereby overexpressed (49, 55). After the drug is removed, the CNV can be lost by
281 selective pressure to maintain a compact genome size (55).

282 Overexpression of *ERG11* by increasing copy number has been observed in *C.*
283 *albicans* (47, 48). However, in *C. albicans* the gene was amplified along with *TAC1*
284 by means of a partial aneuploidy of chromosome 5 leading to a formation of an
285 isochromosome, i(5L). The i(5L) isochromosome, which typically results in a single
286 extra copy of the chromosomal region, has been identified in multiple clinical isolates
287 where it has a modest but measurable impact on fluconazole resistance in different
288 genetic backgrounds (47, 49, 56). Genomic expansion of *ERG11* in combination
289 with hotspot mutations is also associated with azole resistance of *C. tropicalis* (57).
290 In *C. auris*, a large survey of 304 isolates identified a CNV including *ERG11* in 18
291 isolates (most from a single clade) which was associated with fluconazole resistance
292 (58). Recently, a laboratory-directed evolution experiment also showed that reduced
293 azole susceptibility is associated with large segmental duplications containing
294 *ERG11* in *C. auris*. One evolved strain had a 191 kb long CNV with 75 protein
295 encoding genes including *ERG11* amplified, while another had a 161 kb long CNV
296 containing 67 protein encoding genes including *ERG11* (59).

297 A very recent analysis identified amplifications of *ERG11* in 21 azole resistant
298 isolates of *C. parapsilosis* (60). The amplifications ranged from partial aneuploidy of
299 chromosome 3, similar to *C. albicans* (47, 48), to smaller amplifications of 2.3 to 12.1
300 kb (60). These are similar to the amplifications that we observe in strain Cp27, where
301 *ERG11* and its neighboring gene are amplified (5.6 kb). The CNV in strain Cp15 is
302 distinctly different; only the *ERG11* promoter region is amplified. Importantly, both
303 Cp27 and Cp15 isolates also have increased *ERG11* expression (logFC ~2.4, Table
304 1), strongly suggesting these duplications directly impact expression of this gene and
305 fluconazole resistance. We have previously observed a similar localised gene
306 amplification in *C. parapsilosis* in the gene *RTA3* (44). Several different CNVs,
307 spanning either the whole gene or just the promoter region, led to overexpression of
308 *RTA3* associated with increased resistance to the antimicrobial drug miltefosine.
309 Promoter amplifications may therefore be a previously underexplored mechanism of
310 drug resistance in *Candida* species.

311 The GWAS analysis performed in this study failed to find significant associations.
312 Although disappointing, it is within expectation because the sample size (n=42) is
313 very low for a study of this kind, and there was a large imbalance between the
314 number of resistant (n=35) and susceptible (n=7) isolates. PowerBacGWAS, a tool
315 used to find required sample sizes for GWAS in bacteria, estimates in a best case
316 scenario where minor allele frequency is high and effect size is large, analysis of 500
317 isolates would be required to identify a single significant SNP in *Mycobacterium*
318 *tuberculosis* (61). This issue is further compounded in our study by the presence of
319 groups of highly related strains from outbreak infections, which reduces the effective
320 sample size. Despite the lack of statistical power, the GWAS results guided us
321 towards characterising the *CDR1B* amplification as a possible mechanism of
322 fluconazole resistance. This discovery lends support to the use of GWAS in *C.*
323 *parapsilosis*, particularly in studying easily definable phenotypes such as antifungal
324 resistance.

325 Our analysis of the *CDR* family in the *C. parapsilosis* species complex has led to
326 some interesting insights. We found that most of the *CDR* genes in the *C.*
327 *parapsilosis* species complex have arisen by gene duplication events after the
328 lineage diverged from *C. albicans*. The *CDR* gene content varies between *C.*
329 *parapsilosis* and its two sister species. Many *CDR* copies are located at telomeres
330 and there is evidence of exchange of duplicated genes between telomeres. The
331 *CDR1B* locus is particularly variable between the three sister species; there is a
332 single gene in *C. metapsilosis*, two distinct genes in *C. orthopsilosis*, and two highly
333 similar genes in *C. parapsilosis*. It is possible that *C. orthopsilosis* represents the
334 ancestral state, with one of the genes lost in the *C. metapsilosis* lineage and one
335 gene overwritten in *C. parapsilosis* by gene conversion from its neighbour.

336 Previous analysis identified several potential azole resistance mechanisms in some
337 of the strains described here (18, 40, 41). This includes the Y132F mutation in
338 *ERG11* (Table 1) (18). We find that this variant is present in all the closely related
339 isolates from Johannesburg, supporting our inference that these represent an
340 infection outbreak. However, the range of MICs observed in these isolates cannot
341 fully be explained by the presence of Y132F (Table 1). Two isolates (Cp35 and
342 Cp38) collected in 2008, late in the inferred outbreak, have also acquired variants in

343 Tac1, with an associated rise in expression of *CDR1* (Table 1, logFC 0.4-0.7) (18).
344 Our analysis suggests that in other isolates (e.g. Cp37, also collected in 2008)
345 increased resistance is associated with, and may be caused by, amplification of the
346 *CDR1B* locus (up to ~33 copies).

347 The presence of *ERG11* Y132F is increasingly associated with infection outbreaks
348 (19-23, 25), suggesting that it may confer a transmission advantage beyond the
349 effect on azole resistance. However, outbreaks can also be caused by strains
350 without Y132F such as the Bloemfontein isolates in this study. For example, in a
351 study investigating 60 *C. parapsilosis* strains involved in a large outbreak in a
352 Brazilian ICU, only ~36% of isolates resistant to fluconazole had an *ERG11* mutation
353 (62). Another outbreak among patients undergoing allo-hematopoietic cell transplant
354 treatment was associated with isolates without the Y132F mutation (63).

355 All of strains from the Bloemfontein outbreak have increased expression of *MDR1B*
356 ($\log_2\text{FC}$ 1.8-5.28, Table 1). Although the isolates are closely related, there is some
357 variability in their *MRR1* alleles. Some isolates contain an A854V activating mutation
358 in *MRR1*, which is known to result in overexpression of *MDR1B* (41). Seven are
359 heterozygous for the A854V mutation in *MRR1*, one is homozygous for the mutation,
360 and six do not have the mutation. The earliest cultured strains (Cp1 and Cp2 isolated
361 in 2001), are both heterozygous for the mutation whereas some strains isolated later
362 (e.g. Cp17 in 2003) are lacking the mutation entirely (Table 1). This indicates that
363 there may be sub-populations of related strains existing concurrently in the clinic
364 which are variable at *MRR1*. Multiple strains without *Mrr1* A854V have increased
365 expression of *MDR1B* (Table 1), showing that there may be additional unidentified
366 factors contributing to *MDR1B* expression in this clade.

367 Eight of the resistant isolates in Table 1 contain none of the common variants
368 associated with azole resistance. Our work identifies relevant CNVs in 4 of these.
369 *ERG11* is amplified in two strains, Cp27 and Cp15, that are not associated with
370 outbreaks. Strains Cp14 and Cp6, which were also not associated with outbreaks,
371 both have >10 copies of *CDR1B* and no other identified resistance mechanism. The
372 variation in copy number of *CDR1B* across the isolates suggests that *CDR1B*
373 amplification may be a common mechanism of azole resistance in *C. parapsilosis*. It

374 is important to note that, of the multiple *CDR* genes in multiple *Candida* species, we
375 observed CNVs at only the *C. parapsilosis* *CDR1B* locus. We propose that the
376 existence of two nearly identical genes in tandem makes CNVs at this locus more
377 likely to occur. In this way, *C. parapsilosis* may be primed to generate extra copies of
378 *CDR1B*, and therefore be predisposed to develop fluconazole resistance.
379 Amplification likely occurs during infection as described by Branco et al (46), where a
380 strain of *C. parapsilosis* in a patient treated with fluconazole acquired a CNV
381 amplifying *CDR1B* that was associated with reduced fluconazole susceptibility.

382 Methods

383 RNA Sequencing

384 *C. parapsilosis* isolates were maintained at -80°C in 40% glycerol stocks. Isolates
385 were grown in YPD liquid media overnight and plated onto Sabouraud-Dextrose (BD
386 companies) agarose plates in biological triplicate for 24h growth at 30°C. Sterile
387 loops were used to inoculate 20mL RPMI with MOPS and 2% glucose to
388 OD600=0.1. Cultures were incubated at 35°C with 110rpm shaking for 8h, after which
389 the cells were centrifuged at 4000rpm for 5 min. Supernatants were removed and
390 pellets were stored at -80°C for a minimum of 24hrs. RNA isolation was performed
391 via RiboPureTM Yeast (Invitrogen) kits per manufacturer's instructions. RNA
392 Sequencing performed using Illumina NextSeq for stranded mRNA (Hartwell Center,
393 St Jude Children's Research Hospital). Libraries were prepared with paired-end
394 adapters using Illumina chemistries per manufacturer's instructions, with read
395 lengths of approximately 150bp with at least 50 million raw reads per sample
396 (Bioproject 14022043). RNA-sequencing was analyzed using CLC Genomics
397 Workbench version 20.0 (QIAGEN), and reads were trimmed using default settings
398 for failed reads and adaptor sequences and then subsequently mapped to the *C.*
399 *parapsilosis* genome (GenBank accession: GCA_000182765.2) with paired reads
400 counted as one and expression values set to RPKM. Principal-component analysis
401 was utilized for initial assessment of biological replicate clusters. Whole
402 transcriptome differential gene expression analysis was performed with the
403 prescribed algorithm of CLC Genomics Workbench version 20.0. Mismatch,
404 insertion, and deletion costs were set to default parameters and a Wald test was
405 used to compare all isolates against the fluconazole susceptible isolate Cp13. Fold

406 changes for CPAR2_304370, CPAR2_405290, CPAR2_301760 were identified for
407 all isolates and are reported in Table 1.

408

409 **Whole Genome Sequencing**

410 Genomic DNA was isolated from overnight yeast peptone dextrose (YPD) liquid
411 media cultures utilizing a Triton SDS and phenol-chloroform method previously
412 described by Amberg et al (64). DNA concentrations were quantified using both the
413 Qubit Fluorometer and Nanodrop spectrophotometer using the manufacturers'
414 protocols. Whole genome libraries were prepared and sequenced on the
415 NovaSeq600 platform (150 bp, paired-end reads) by the University of Maryland
416 School of Medicine Institute for Genomic Sciences.

417 **Fluconazole Susceptibility Testing**

418 Inoculums of YPD liquid media were prepared from original stocks, stored at -80°C
419 in 40% glycerol. Inoculates were grown at 30°C with 220 rpm shaking overnight and
420 subsequently plated onto Sabouraud dextrose agar for overnight incubation at 35°C.
421 Minimum inhibitory concentrations (MIC) were determined in RPMI1640 (Roswell
422 Park Memorial Institute) supplemented with MOPS (3-(N-morpholino)
423 propanesulfonic acid) buffer and 2% glucose, pH 7.0 liquid media following CLSI
424 M27-A4 methods for broth microdilution. Fluconazole (Sigma Aldrich) drug stocks
425 were prepared in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) at 100× the maximum plate
426 concentration (256 mg/mL for resistant isolates and 16 mg/mL for susceptible
427 isolates). MICs were determined visually as the concentration achieving 50% growth
428 inhibition at 24 hours, and the modal value of biological triplicate measurements was
429 considered the MIC reporting.

430 **MinION sequencing**

431 Samples were grown overnight in 50 mL of YPD broth at 30°C. Genomic DNA was
432 extracted from 1.5 ml of liquid cultures saturated to 10 A600 units per millilitre using
433 the Yeast Masterpure DNA purification kit (MPY80010) following manufacturer's
434 instructions.

435 Genomic DNA (1 µg) from each sample sequenced with MinION technology using
436 the native barcoding kits (SQK-NBD-24 and SQK-NBD114-24) from Oxford
437 Nanopore Technologies (ONT), following manufacturer's instructions. Library kit
438 SQK-NBD112-24 was used for sequencing CDC317 on an R9.4.1 chemistry flowcell
439 (FLO-MIN106D). Library kit SQK-NBD114-24 was used for sequencing Cp14 on an
440 R10.4.1 chemistry flowcell (FLO-MIN114). Sequencing of both strains was
441 performed on a MinION MK1C device with MinKNOW (ONT) versions 21.11.6 and
442 22.10.7 for CDC317 and Cp14 respectively. Both runs were set to the default fast
443 configurations. Basecalling and demultiplexing was run within MinKNOW during
444 sequencing. This generated 638,855 and 237,020 raw reads respectively for
445 CDC317 and Cp14.

446 **Sequence analysis**

447 The Illumina reads for all 42 *C. parapsilosis* samples were downsampled to ~100x
448 coverage using the Picard version 2.21.2 DownsampleSam on unmapped SAM files.
449 These files were converted to FASTQ format using Picard SamToFastq and aligned
450 to the *C. parapsilosis* CDC317 reference genome using bwa mem version 0.7.17
451 (65). GATK version 4.1.4.1 was used to mark duplicate reads and reorder the
452 mapped BAM files with the tools MarkDuplicates and ReorderSam respectively (66).
453 Variants were called on individual samples using GATK HaplotypeCaller with the “-
454 ERC GVCF” tag. The GVCF outputs were combined into a multi-sample VCF with
455 GATK CombineGVCFs, and then genotyped using GATK GenotypeGVCFs. SNP
456 variants were hard filtered using GATK VariantFiltration with following parameters:
457 QD < 2.0, QUAL < 30.0, SOR > 3.0, FS > 60.0, MQ < 40.0, MQRankSum < -12.5,
458 ReadPosRankSum < -8.0 and DP < 10. Indels were similarly filtered using
459 parameters: QD < 2.0, QUAL < 30.0, FS > 200.0, and ReadPosRankSum < -20.0. All
460 variants were filtered using GATK SelectVariants to remove multi-allelic sites, and
461 sites that contained >10% ‘no-call’ genotypes. The two sets of variants were
462 combined for GWAS analysis, and a file containing only SNPs was used for
463 phylogenetic analysis. MinION reads for isolate CDC317 were filtered using NanoFilt
464 to exclude reads with quality < 12 and length < 10000 (67). The filtered reads were
465 assembled using Canu version 2.2 (68). Errors in this assembly were removed by
466 incorporating Illumina read data using NextPolish version 1.4.0 (69). The assembly is

467 available under accession PRJNA1031570. Reads for *C. orthopsilosis* were obtained
468 from Schröder et al. (70), Pryszzcz et al. (71), Bergin et al. (44) and Zhai et al. (63),
469 and reads for *C. metapsilosis* from Zhai et al. (63) and O'Brien et al. (72) (Table S2).

470 **Phylogeny**

471 A FASTA alignment of all sites containing a SNP in at least one isolate was created
472 from the multi-sample VCF file using a custom script
473 (<https://github.com/CMOTsean/HetSiteRando>). Heterozygous variants were
474 randomly assigned to either allele on a per-site basis. A SNP tree was constructed
475 with the alignment file using RAxML version v8.2.12 with the GTRGAMMA model of
476 nucleotide substitution and 1000 bootstrap replicants (73).

477 **GWAS**

478 A binary phenotype matrix where all samples were scored as either resistant or
479 susceptible was used as input to the GWAS. Variants entering the GWAS were
480 filtered to only those likely to affect protein function, as annotated by SIFT4G (74).
481 PLINK version 1.90b6.21 was used to reformat input data into BED, BIM, and FAM
482 files for the GWAS (75). GEMMA version 0.98.5 was used to create a relatedness
483 matrix between all strains, and then to conduct the GWAS itself using parameters ‘-
484 hwe 0.0 -maf 0.0’ (51).

485 **Estimating repeat copy number and structure**

486 To calculate the estimated copy number of the *CPAR2_304370* locus, the average
487 coverage across the ORF in each isolate was found using BEDTools coverage
488 version 2.29.2 and then divided by half the modal genome coverage (BEDTools
489 genomecov) for that isolate (76).

490 To confirm copy number estimates and investigate the structure of the repeat, the
491 nucleotide sequence of *CDR1B.1* was searched against MinION reads from strains
492 CDC317 and Cp14 using BLASTN. Additionally, the Cp14 reads were aligned to the
493 MinION CDC317 assembly using GraphMap version 0.3.0 (77).

494 ***C. parapsilosis* species complex comparison**

495 To create the synteny maps between *C. parapsilosis* and its sister species, the *C.*
496 *parapsilosis* CDC317 reference genome was aligned against the *C. metapsilosis*
497 BP57 reference genome (GCA_017655625.1) (52) and the *C. orthopsilosis* SY36
498 long-read assembly (PRJNA767198) using BLASTN. Hits from each query
499 chromosome were assigned a colour and then plotted.

500 To construct the tree of CDR protein sequences, the sequences for *C. albicans*, *C.*
501 *parapsilosis*, and *C. metapsilosis* were taken from CGOB with the exception of
502 *CMET_1535* which came from the *C. metapsilosis* BP57 assembly.

503

504 **Data availability**

505 DNA sequence assembly and raw data is available under accession PRJNA1031570
506 and RNA sequencing is available at BioProject 14022043.

507

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Legends

Figure 1.

Left: Maximum-likelihood tree of 42 *Candida parapsilosis* isolates. RAxML (73) was used to construct the tree from an alignment of 15,582 SNPs genome-wide, using the GTRGAMMA model of nucleotide substitution. Branches with bootstrap values < 100 after 1000 iterations of bootstrap sampling are coloured according to value,

ranging from red (0) to green (99). Clades are marked with asterisks to denote potential outbreaks in Bloemfontein (*) and Johannesburg (**). *Right:* Bar chart showing estimated copy number of the *CDR1B* locus (*CPAR2_304370* in the reference genome assembly). Fluconazole-susceptible isolates are denoted with a blue bar, resistant isolates with a green bar. Copy number was estimated by taking mean coverage across the *CPAR2_304370* ORF and dividing by half the modal coverage for the isolate.

Figure 2.

Amplification of *ERG11* in fluconazole resistant isolates *C. parapsilosis* Cp15 and Cp27. Screenshot from IGV showing coverage (read depth) tracks (78). Coverage value is marked on the right for the peak of the amplification, and for the region average. Estimated copy numbers are in parentheses. Thick bars at bottom show CDS of genes, and thinner bars represent transcribed regions.

Figure 3.

- A. Diagram showing the likely ancestral state of the *CDR1B* (*CPAR2_304370*) locus, with two highly similar genes *CDR1B.1* and *CDR1B.2* in tandem as occurs in the corrected genome sequence of *C. parapsilosis* CDC317 (based on MinION sequencing). The dashed grey arrow indicates how mis-assembly of this locus in the original reference genome sequence for CDC317 (79) led to an erroneous fusion between *CDR1B.1* and *CDR1B.2*, resulting in annotation of the incorrect gene structure *CPAR2_304370*. The solid grey arrows show CNVs formed by array expansion and or contraction in other isolates, such as Cp14 and FM16.
- B. Coverage tracks in IGV of short-read data from three isolates aligned to the original *C. parapsilosis* CDC317 assembly. Both CDC317 and Cp14 have increased coverage at the *CPAR2_304370* locus, whereas FM16 does not.
- C. MinION reads of isolate Cp14 aligned to a long-read CDC317 assembly show evidence of a tandem array of chimeric genes bounded by parental genes. The bottom track shows the annotated long-read assembly of CDC317, containing both *CDR1B.1* and *CDR1B.2*. Each grey bar is a single read aligned to the *CDR1B* locus where grey denotes read sequence matching the

reference, and coloured dashes are mismatched positions, from modified screenshots of IGV (70). Reads aligned to this locus belong to one of three groups: (i) reads that align fully to *CDR1B.1* and left flanking DNA while partially aligning to *CDR1B.2*, (ii) reads that align partially to both *CDR1B.1* and *CDR1B.2*, and (iii) reads that align fully to *CDR1B.2* and right flanking DNA while partially aligning to *CDR1B.1*. A schematic showing the genic content for each read group is shown above for clarity. Red boxes highlight regions where the read sequence does not match the reference sequence. Reads from groups (i) and (iii) contain one parent gene and one or more copies of the tandem chimera. Reads from group (ii) contain multiple copies of the tandem chimera but neither of the parent genes.

Figure 4.

Left: Schematic of synteny shared between members of the *C. parapsilosis* species complex. The *C. parapsilosis* genome was aligned to the genomes of *C. metapsilosis* (GCA_017655625.1) (52) and *C. orthopsilosis* (PRJNA767198) using BLASTN. These genomes were then coloured according to the *C. parapsilosis* chromosome aligned to each region. Previously identified centromeres are marked with a white circle (80). The locations of CDR genes are shown for each species. Right: Phylogenetic tree of CDR protein sequences from *C. parapsilosis*, *C. orthopsilosis*, *C. metapsilosis*, and *C. albicans*. Pink backgrounds denote genes most closely related to *CDR1B.1* and *CDR1B.2*. Three clades of genes located near telomeres are marked with boxes. Protein sequences were aligned using the Clustal Omega method in Seaview (81). The tree was constructed with the LG model within Seaview, using 100 bootstrap replicates. Bootstrap values >85 have been omitted for clarity.

Figure S1.

Maximum-likelihood tree of 207 *Candida parapsilosis* isolates constructed as in Fig. 1. Additional isolates, and clade designations were taken from (44). Susceptible isolates in this paper are marked with a blue circle, and resistant isolates are marked with a green circle. Coloured branches indicate bootstrap values after 1000 iterations of bootstrap sampling for that branch ranging from 0 (red) to 100 (green).

Figure S2.

Genome-wide coverage tracks for aneuploid strains. Coverage was calculated as the log2 mean coverage of 1kb windows and plotted. Dashed red line shows log2 value = 1, i.e. typical 2x diploid coverage

Table S1. GEMMA (GWAS) analysis

Table S2. Source of sequencing data for isolates.

Table 1 Expression and variant analysis of *C. parapsilosis* isolates

Isolate	Origin	Date	^a MI C	Expression relative to Cp13 (\log_2 FC) ^c					CDR1 B Copy Num ber	^a Variants		
				ERG1 1	MDR 1	MDR1 B	CDR 1	CDR1 B		ERG1 1	MRR1	TAC1
Cp37	Johannesbu rg	07/200 8	256	0.53	0.89	0.25	-0.45	1.84	33	<u>Y132</u> <u>F</u> , <u>R398I</u>		L978 W
Cp38	Johannesbu rg	08/200 8	32	0.11	0.6	-0.31	0.73	2.03	6	<u>Y132</u> <u>F</u> , <u>R398I</u>		<u>G650</u> <u>E</u>
Cp35	Johannesbu rg	01/200 8	32	0.38	0.78	0	0.37	1.48	6	<u>Y132</u> <u>F</u> , <u>R398I</u>		<u>G650</u> <u>E</u>
Cp34	Johannesbu rg	03/200 8	32	-0.07	0.48	0.91	-0.29	1.65	27	<u>Y132</u> <u>F</u> , <u>R398I</u>		
Cp26	Johannesbu rg	05/200 4	32	0.12	0.46	-0.25	-0.23	1.15	11	<u>Y132</u> <u>F</u> , <u>R398I</u>		
Cp22	Johannesbu rg	07/200 3	32	0.25	0.6	0.08	-0.36	1.26	19	<u>Y132</u> <u>F</u> , <u>R398I</u>		
Cp31	Johannesbu rg	07/200 6	32	0.27	0.35	0.16	-0.17	1.23	11	<u>Y132</u> <u>F</u> , <u>R398I</u>		
Cp24	Johannesbu rg	09/200 3	16	-0.1	0.2	0.05	-0.07	0.83	13	<u>Y132</u> <u>F</u> , <u>R398I</u>		
Cp25	Johannesbu rg	09/200 3	16	0.12	0.51	0.03	-0.41	1.24	12	<u>Y132</u> <u>F</u> , <u>R398I</u>		
Cp4	Johannesbu rg	05/200 1	16	0.82	1.01	1.47	-0.15	1.65	18	<u>Y132</u> <u>F</u> , <u>R398I</u>		
Cp7	Johannesbu rg	05/200 2	16	0.63	1.44	2.58	0.09	1.75	13	<u>Y132</u> <u>F</u> , <u>R398I</u>		
Cp21	Ann Arbor	05/200 3	8	0.35	0.69	0.3	-0.43	1.77	22	<u>Y132</u> <u>F</u> , <u>R398I</u>		L978 W
Cp28	Bloemfontei n	02/200 5	64	0.34	-0.21	3.63	0.2	0.48	5	<u>A854</u> <u>V</u>		
Cp29	Bloemfontei n	02/200 5	64	0.11	2.53	5.28	-0.22	2.18	5	<u>A854</u> <u>V</u>		
Cp20	Bloemfontei n	04/200 3	16	0.22	-0.04	3.94	0.59	0.94	6	<u>A854</u> <u>V</u>		
Cp11	Bloemfontei n	03/200 2	16	-0.19	-0.02	4.56	-0.08	-0.17	5			
Cp2	Bloemfontei n	05/200 1	16	0.48	1.41	4.41	0.36	1.25	5	<u>A854</u> <u>V</u>		
Cp1	Bloemfontei n	03/200 1	16	0.57	0.21	3.65	0.23	0.98	5	<u>A854</u> <u>V</u>		
Cp18	Bloemfontei n	04/200 3	16	0.5	-0.18	2.31	0.4	0.07	6			
Cp17	Bloemfontei n	01/200 3	16	0.14	-0.07	1.76	-0.6	-0.01	5			
Cp8	Bloemfontei n	01/200 2	16	0.72	1.46	4.13	0.25	0.39	5			
Cp10	Bloemfontei n	03/200 2	16	0.45	0.45	4.55	0.26	1.03	5	<u>A854</u> <u>V</u>		
Cp12	Bloemfontei n	07/200 2	16	-0.68	0.9	2.28	-0.4	0.15	4		<u>P255L</u> ,	<u>A854</u> <u>V</u>
Cp9	Bloemfontei n	03/200 2	16	-0.29	0.45	2.18	-0.89	-0.6	5		<u>A854</u> <u>V</u>	
Cp16	Bloemfontei n	01/200 3	8	0.37	-0.29	3.44	0.39	-0.12	5			

Cp19	Bloemfontein	04/2003	8	-0.72	-0.93	1.8	-0.22	-0.69	5			
Cp30	Bratislava	09/2005	128	-0.18	5.14	7.38	-0.67	3.39	4	R398I	<u>R479K</u>	
Cp32	Caracas	06/2007	128	0.92	0.48	-0.69	0.09	-0.08	4	R398I		I221T
Cp36	Detroit	04/2008	64	-0.69	4.09	6.71	-0.53	3.11	2		<u>I283R</u>	
Cp39	Bratislava	07/2009	32	0.75	0.33	3.26	-0.43	1	4	<u>Y132F</u>	G294E	R208G
Cp27	Hershey	11/2004	32	2.45	0.25	2.7	-0.06	2.01	4		K129fs, G982R	R208G
Cp14	Helsinki	06/2002	16	0.08	-0.47	0.28	0.42	2.09	16			
Cp15	Quito	01/2003	16	2.38	-0.26	0.58	-0.01	0.17	9	<u>F145L</u>		N900D
Cp6	Turino	05/2001	16	0.93	0.45	0.8	-0.92	0.94	10			
Cp5	New York	N/A	0.5	0.42	0.54	0.7	-1.26	-0.57	2		<u>K177N</u> , Q1053*	
Cp3	Kuala Lumpur	04/2001	0.25	0.8	0.25	0.26	-0.14	0.82	5	R398I		
Cp13	New York	N/A	0.25	0	0	0	0	0	4	R398I , S216L		
CDC317	Mississippi	N/A	64 ^b	-	-	-	-	-	5	<u>Y132F</u>		
FM16	Nantes	N/A	2 ^b	-	-	-	-	-	2			
MSK809	New York	N/A	2 ^b	-	-	-	-	-	4	R398I		
73-037	Leeds	N/A	2 ^b	-	-	-	-	-	4			R208G
73-114	Leeds	N/A	2 ^b	-	-	-	-	-	4	R398I	D615G	L877P

^aFluconazole MIC values (24 h) and variants in *ERG11*, *MMR1* and *TAC1* were described previously (18, 41). Underlined mutations have been experimentally determined to increase fluconazole resistance. Homozygous variants are shown in bold. ^bMIC values were measured in a separate assay. ^c Expression values show log₂ fold-changes relative to Cp13 from RNA-Seq. - expression data not available.

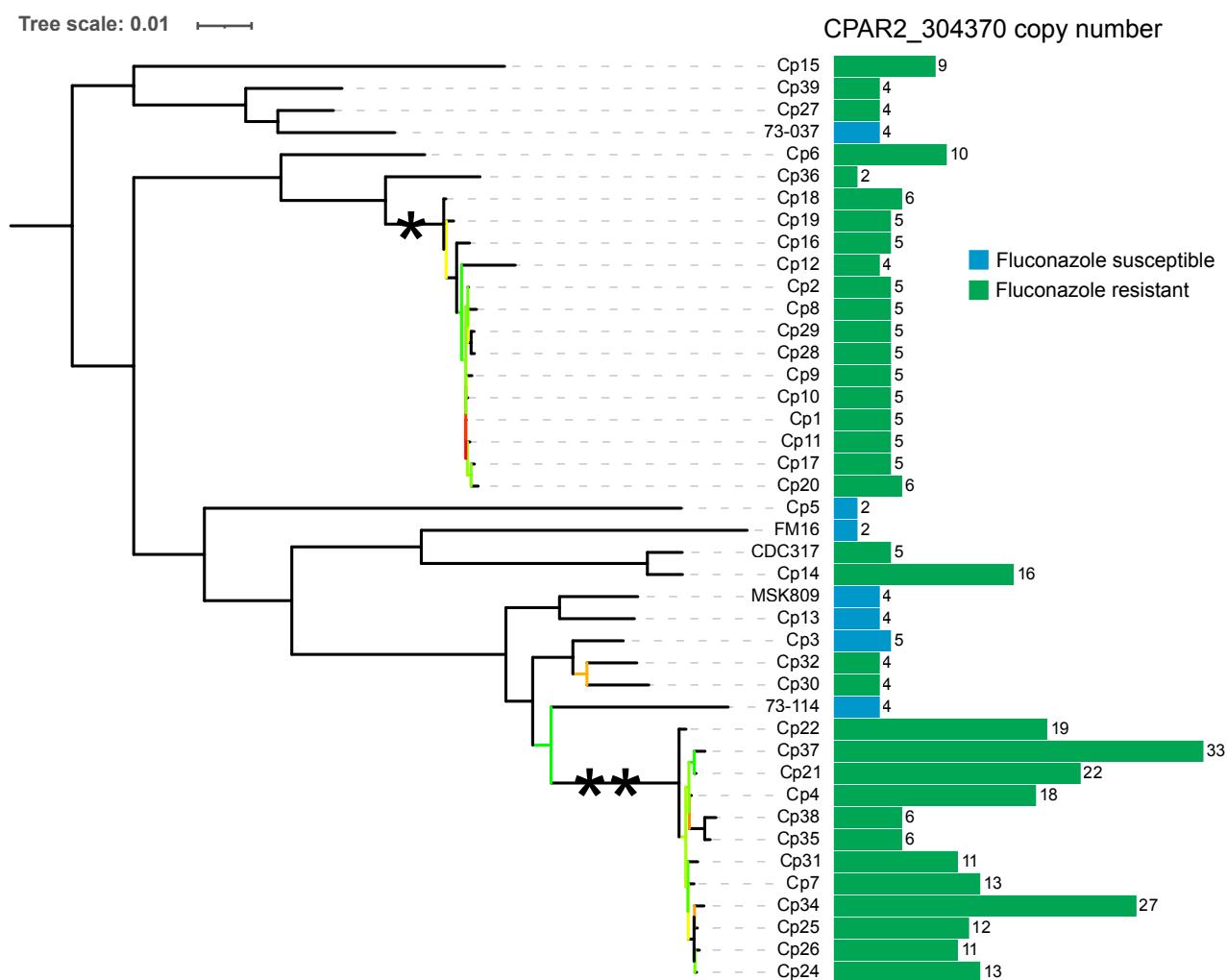


Figure 1.

Left: Maximum-likelihood tree of 42 *Candida parapsilosis* isolates. RAxML (71) was used to construct the tree from an alignment of 15,582 SNPs genome-wide, using the GTRGAMMA model of nucleotide substitution. Branches with bootstrap values < 100 after 1000 iterations of bootstrap sampling are coloured according to value, ranging from red (0) to green (99). Clades are marked with asterisks to denote potential outbreaks in Bloemfontein (*) and Johannesburg (**). Right: Bar chart showing estimated copy number of the *CDR1B* locus (CPAR2_304370 in the reference genome assembly). Fluconazole-susceptible isolates are denoted with a blue bar, resistant isolates with a green bar. Copy number was estimated by taking mean coverage across the *CPAR2_304370* ORF and dividing by half the modal coverage for the isolate.

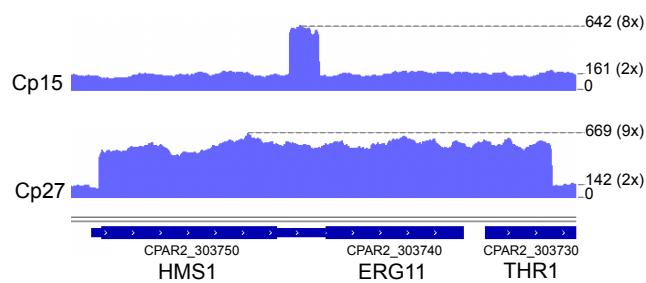


Figure 2.

Amplification of *ERG11* in fluconazole resistant isolates *C. parapsilosis* Cp15 and Cp27. Screenshot from IGV showing coverage (read depth) tracks (75). Coverage value is marked on the right for the peak of the amplification, and for the region average. Estimated copy numbers are in parentheses. Thick bars at bottom show CDS of genes, and thinner bars represent transcribed regions.

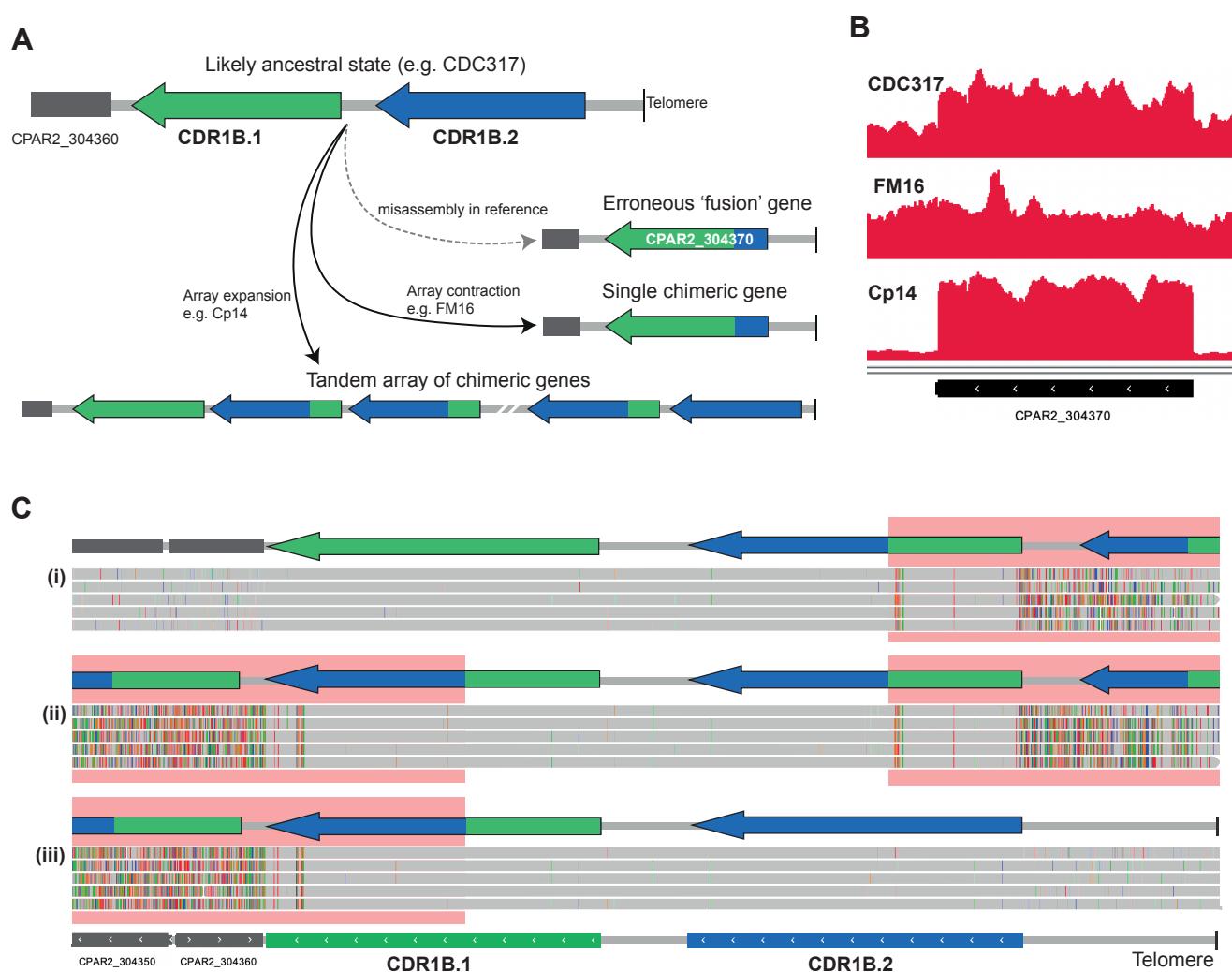


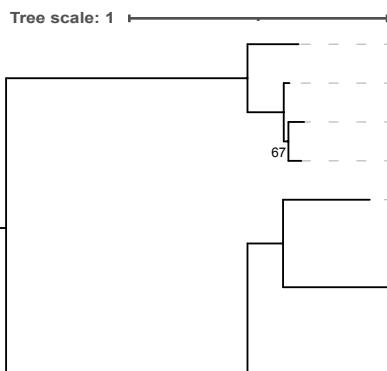
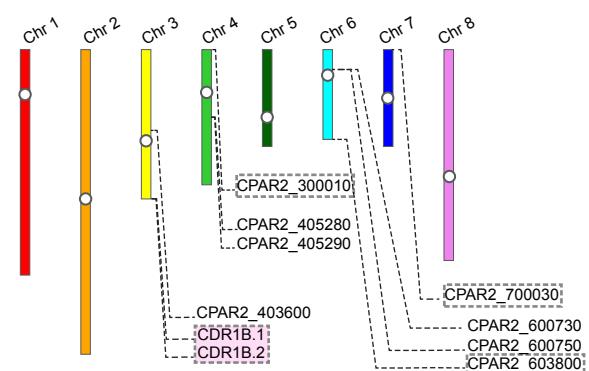
Figure 3.

A. Diagram showing the likely ancestral state of the *CDR1B* (CPAR2_304370) locus, with two highly similar genes *CDR1B.1* and *CDR1B.2* in tandem as occurs in the corrected genome sequence of *C. parapsilosis* CDC317 (based on MinION sequencing). The dashed grey arrow indicates how mis-assembly of this locus in the original reference genome sequence for CDC317 (76) led to an erroneous fusion between *CDR1B.1* and *CDR1B.2*, resulting in annotation of the incorrect gene structure CPAR2_304370. The solid grey arrows show CNVs formed by array expansion and or contraction in other isolates, such as Cp14 and FM16.

B. Coverage tracks in IGV of short-read data from three isolates aligned to the original *C. parapsilosis* CDC317 assembly. Both CDC317 and Cp14 have increased coverage at the CPAR2_304370 locus, whereas FM16 does not.

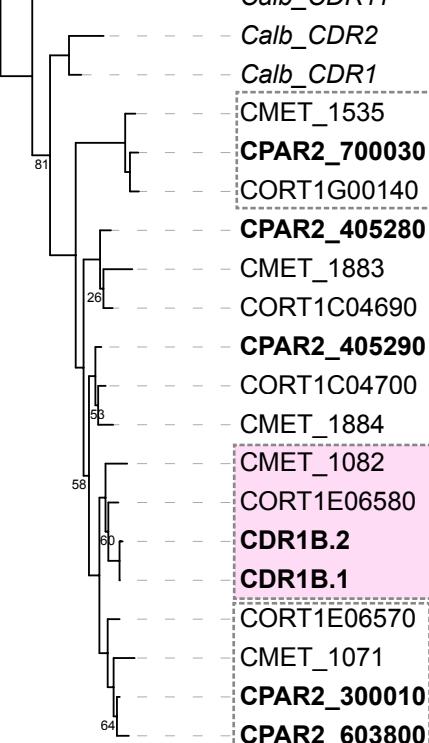
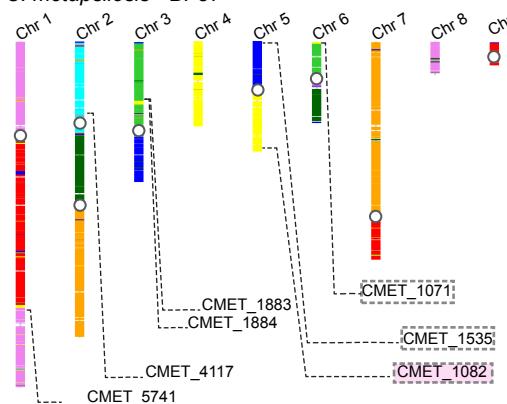
C. MinION reads of isolate Cp14 aligned to a long-read CDC317 assembly show evidence of a tandem array of chimeric genes bounded by parental genes. The bottom track shows the annotated long-read assembly of CDC317, containing both *CDR1B.1* and *CDR1B.2*. Each grey bar is a single read aligned to the *CDR1B* locus where grey denotes read sequence matching the reference, and coloured dashes are mismatched positions, from modified screenshots of IGV (70). Reads aligned to this locus belong to one of three groups: (i) reads that align fully to *CDR1B.1* and left flanking DNA while partially aligning to *CDR1B.2*, (ii) reads that align partially to both *CDR1B.1* and *CDR1B.2*, and (iii) reads that align fully to *CDR1B.2* and right flanking DNA while partially aligning to *CDR1B.1*. A schematic showing the genic content for each read group is shown above for clarity. Red boxes highlight regions where the read sequence does not match the reference sequence. Reads from groups (i) and (iii) contain one parent gene and one or more copies of the tandem chimera. Reads from group (ii) contain multiple copies of the tandem chimera but neither of the parent genes.

C. parapsilosis - CDC317



Calb_SNQ2
CORT1H02090
CMET_4117
CPAR2_600750
Calb_CDR4
Calb_CDR3
CPAR2_403600
CORT1E03610
CMET_5741
CPAR2_600730

C. metapsilosis - BP57



C. orthopsilosis - Co 90-125

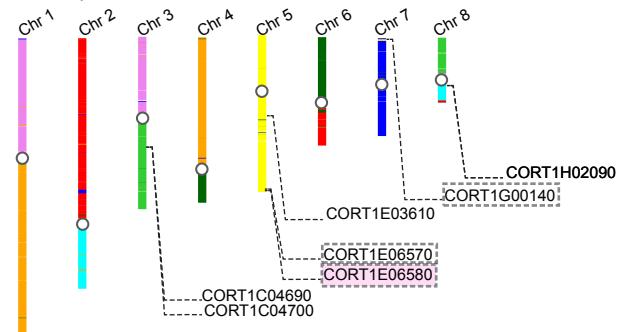


Figure 4.

Left: Schematic of synteny shared between members of the *C. parapsilosis* species complex. The *C. parapsilosis* genome was aligned to the genomes of *C. metapsilosis* (GCA_017655625.1) (55) and *C. orthopsilosis* (PRJNA767198) using BLASTN. These genomes were then coloured according to the *C. parapsilosis* chromosome aligned to each region. Previously identified centromeres are marked with a white circle (77). The locations of CDR genes are shown for each species.

Right: Phylogenetic tree of CDR protein sequences from *C. parapsilosis*, *C. orthopsilosis*, *C. metapsilosis*, and *C. albicans*. Pink backgrounds denote genes most closely related to *CDR1B.1* and *CDR1B.2*. Three clades of genes located near telomeres are marked with boxes. Protein sequences were aligned using the Clustal Omega method in Seaview (78). The tree was constructed with the LG model within Seaview, using 100 bootstrap replicates. Bootstrap values >85 have been omitted for clarity.

Supplementary Material

Table S1: Excel file

Table S2 Sequencing data for isolates

Isolate name	City	Country	Sequence data source	Reference
Candida parapsilosis				
Cp1	Bloemfontein	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp10	Bloemfontein	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp11	Bloemfontein	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp12	Bloemfontein	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp13	New York	United States	This study	(40)
Cp14	Helsinki	Finland	This study	(40)
Cp15	Quito	Ecuador	This study	(40)
Cp16	Bloemfontein	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp17	Bloemfontein	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp18	Bloemfontein	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp19	Bloemfontein	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp2	Bloemfontein	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp20	Bloemfontein	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp21	Ann Arbor	United States	This study	(40)
Cp22	Johannesburg	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp24	Johannesburg	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp25	Johannesburg	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp26	Johannesburg	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp27	Hershey	United States	This study	(40)
Cp28	Bloemfontein	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp29	Bloemfontein	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp3	Kuala Lumpur	Malaysia	This study	(40)
Cp30	Bratislava	Slovakia	This study	(40)
Cp31	Johannesburg	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp32	Caracas	Venezuela	This study	(40)
Cp34	Johannesburg	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp35	Johannesburg	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp36	Detroit	United States	This study	(40)
Cp37	Johannesburg	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp38	Johannesburg	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp39	Bratislava	Slovakia	This study	(40)
Cp4	Johannesburg	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp5	New York	United States	This study	(40)
Cp6	Turino	Italy	This study	(40)
Cp7	Johannesburg	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp8	Bloemfontein	South Africa	This study	(40)
Cp9	Bloemfontein	South Africa	This study	(40)
CDC317	Mississippi	USA	PRJNA795920	(79)
FM16	Nantes	France	PRJNA795920	(44)
MSK809	New York	USA	PRJNA748054	(44)
73-037	Leeds	UK	PRJNA795920	(44)
73-114	Leeds	UK	PRJNA795920	(44)
Candida orthopsilosis				
151	Atlanta	USA	PRJNA322245	(70)
185	Atlanta	USA	PRJNA322245	(70)
282	Baltimore	USA	PRJNA322245	(70)
320	Baltimore	USA	PRJNA322245	(70)
421	Pisa	Italy	PRJNA322245	(70)
422	Pisa	Italy	PRJNA322245	(70)
423	L'Aquila	Italy	PRJNA322245	(70)

424	Pisa	Italy	PRJNA322245	(70)
425	Pisa	Italy	PRJNA322245	(70)
426	Varese	Italy	PRJNA322245	(70)
427	Pisa	Italy	PRJNA322245	(70)
428	Hong Kong	Hong Kong	PRJNA322245	(70)
433	Sint-Niklaas	Belgium	PRJNA322245	(70)
434	Bristol	UK	PRJNA322245	(70)
435	Pisa	Italy	PRJNA322245	(70)
436	Pisa	Italy	PRJNA322245	(70)
437	Pisa	Italy	PRJNA322245	(70)
498	Baltimore	USA	PRJNA322245	(70)
504	Baltimore	USA	PRJNA322245	(70)
599	Baltimore	USA	PRJNA322245	(70)
748	Atlanta	USA	PRJNA322245	(70)
831	Atlanta	USA	PRJNA322245	(70)
1540	Baltimore	USA	PRJNA322245	(70)
1799	Atlanta	USA	PRJNA322245	(70)
1825	Baltimore	USA	PRJNA322245	(70)
90-125	N/A	N/A	PRJNA431439	(70)
B-8274	N/A	Pakistan	PRJNA322245	(70)
B-8323	N/A	Pakistan	PRJNA322245	(70)
MCO456	N/A	N/A	PRJEB4430	(71)
MSK477	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK479	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK616	New York	USA	PRJNA748054	(44)
MSK636	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK638	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK639	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK805	New York	USA	PRJNA748054	(44)
Candida metapsilosis				
MSK403	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK404	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK413	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK414	New York	USA	PRJNA748054	(72)
MSK415	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK416	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK417	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK418	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK429	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK430	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK431	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK432	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK433	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK434	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK445	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK446	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK447	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK448	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK449	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK450	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK461	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK462	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK463	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK464	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK465	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK466	New York	USA	PRJNA579121	(63)
MSK606	New York	USA	PRJNA748054	(72)

MSK607	New York	USA	PRJNA748054	(72)
MSK798	New York	USA	PRJNA748054	(72)
MSK801	New York	USA	PRJNA748054	(72)

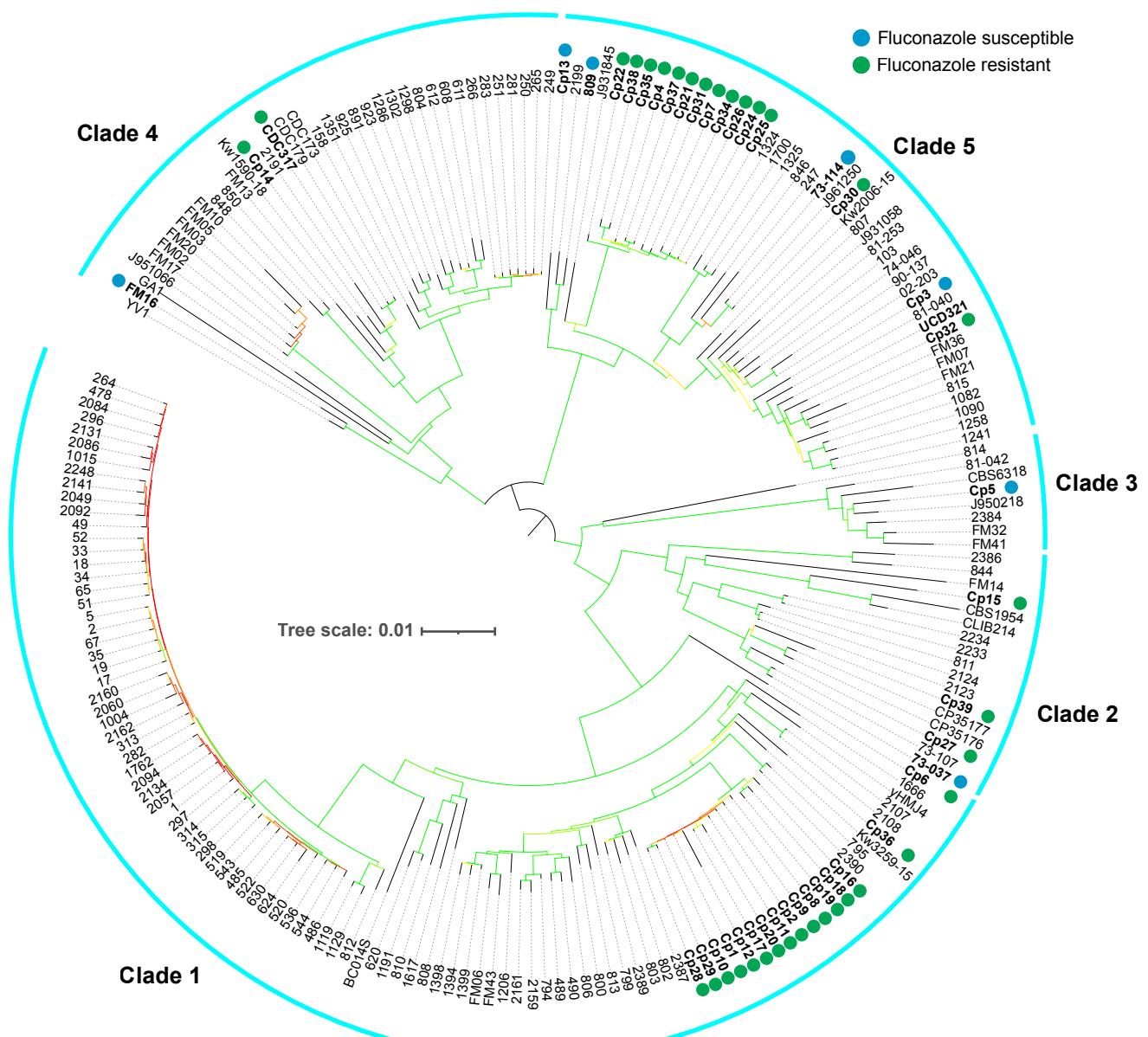


Figure S1.

Maximum-likelihood tree of 207 *Candida parapsilosis* isolates constructed as in Figure 1. Additional isolates, and clade designations were taken from (44). Susceptible isolates in this paper are marked with a blue circle, and resistant isolates are marked with a green circle. Coloured branches indicate bootstrap values after 1000 iterations of bootstrap sampling for that branch ranging from 0 (red) to 100 (green).

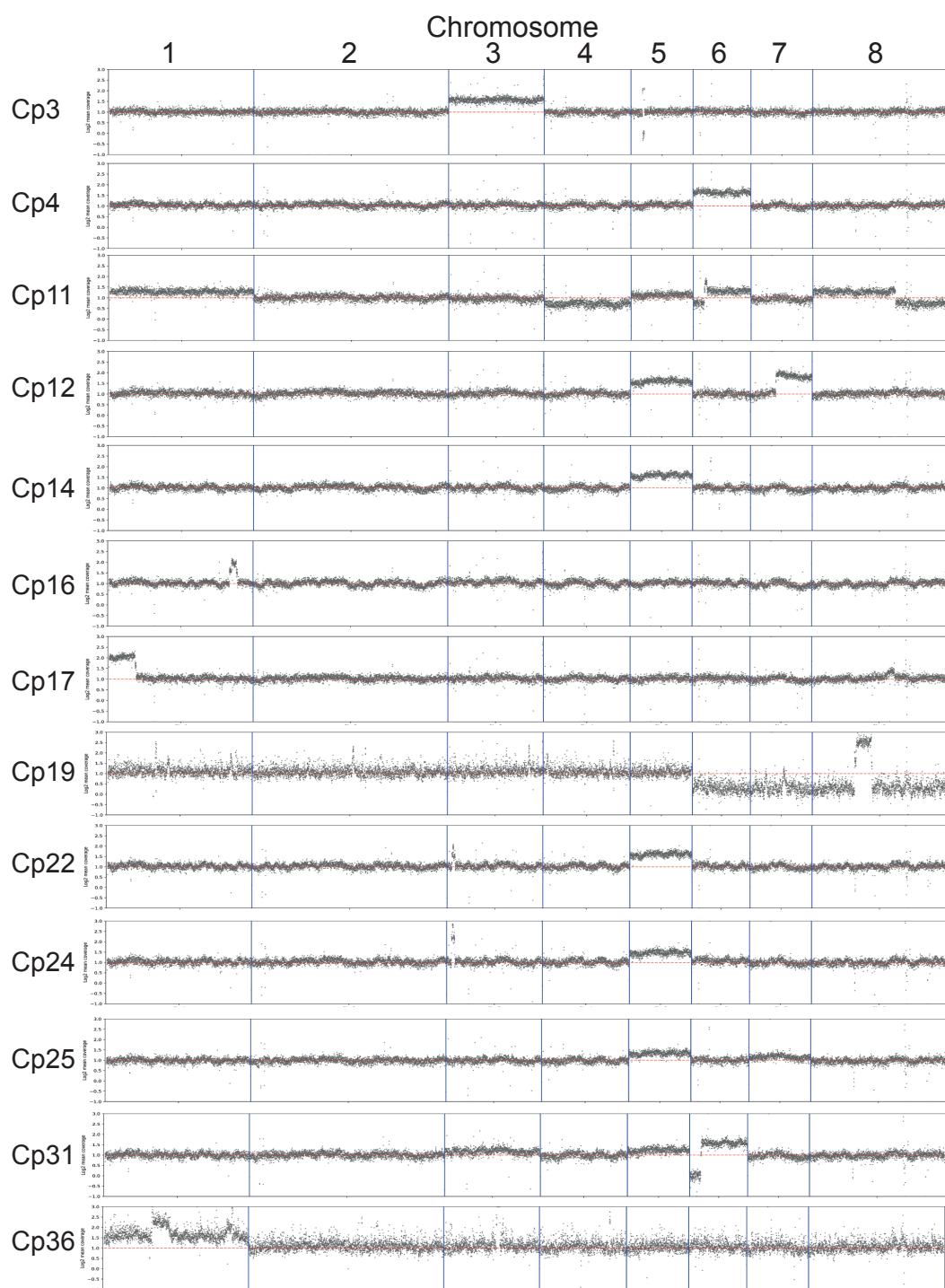


Figure S2.

Genome-wide coverage tracks for aneuploid strains. Coverage was calculated as the log₂ mean coverage of 1kb windows and plotted. Dashed red line shows log₂ value = 1, i.e. typical 2x diploid coverage