Background
The incidence of invasive fungal diseases (IFD) is increasing worldwide. Evermore invasive medical care as well as increasing numbers of long-term immunocompromised patients are considered major contributing factors. A wide variety of so-called emerging fungi accounts for a significant proportion of IFD. Data on their epidemiology, pathogen biology and clinical course is scarce, impeding evidence-guided decision making in the clinical setting. The objective of FungiScope® – Global Emerging Fungal Infection Registry is to overcome these difficulties and eventually improve patient care. The registry has been created in 2003 and gained importance in the field. Recently, the FDA approved isavuconazole for the treatment of invasive mucormycosis on the basis of data from the registry.

Methods
- Documenting clinical patient data in an online case report form: Inclusion criteria: Cultural, histopathological or molecular biological evidence of IFD
- Exclusion criteria: Infections due to Aspergillus spp., Candida spp., Cryptococcus neoformans, Pneumocystis jiroveci and any endemic fungal disease
- Colonization
- Data collection of risk factors, clinical presentation, treatment and outcome of IFD
- FungiThek: Biobanking and reference analysis of cultured isolates, as well as exchange with other centers for research projects
- FungiQuest: A search engine of the FungiScope database www.fungiquest.net
- Therapeutic antifungal drug monitoring
- The registry is open to everybody wishing to collaborate and contribute a case of an emerging fungal disease

Conclusions
- Increasing relevance of rare IFD
- Efficient method: 802 cases of rare IFD have been documented
- Actively collecting fungal isolates for central identification and research
- Joint publications presenting epidemiology of rare IFD
- FungiScope® – Global Emerging Fungal Infection Registry
- Department of Internal Medicine, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany
- Institute of Medical Microbiology, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany
- Clinical Trials Centre Cologne, ZEIS Köln, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany
- Cologne Excellence Cluster on Cellular Stress Responses in Aging Associated Diseases (ECCAD), Medical Faculty, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany
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Partner countries
FungiScope® has collaborations in 74 countries. Cases were documented from 43 countries (dark blue).

Join FungiScope!
Become a collaborator. Contribute your cases of rare IFD and publish together.

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References