

## Part II

# Fungal Infections of the Gastrointestinal Tract

**Abstract** The incidence of fungal infections of the gastrointestinal tract has increased significantly as the number of patients with organ transplants, AIDS and other immunodeficiency states, and on long-term chemotherapy has risen. Tissue biopsy remains one of the most important tools available in the diagnosis of fungal infections, particularly as fungal cultures may require days to weeks for adequate growth and analysis. This section addresses common and uncommon fungal infections affecting the gastrointestinal tract, including clinical setting, macroscopic and histologic features, differential diagnoses, and useful laboratory tests that can aid in diagnosis.