The Effect of Econazole Nitate Topical Foam, 1% on Signs and Symptoms (Pruritus) of Interdigital Tinea Pedis

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ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION

Tinea pedis is the most common dermatomycosis infection. Results from the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS) and National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS) (1995-2004) indicated an average of 4,124,038 annual visits for dermatophytoses during the study period with three periods accounting for 10.8% (1). Treatment is critical in order to alleviate symptoms, to limit the spread of infection to other body sites or other individuals (2, 3).

Topical antifungal creams are effective in treating interdigital tinea pedis, but little is known about how clinical efficacy of antifungal foams impact quality of life as compared to traditional antifungal creams.

OBJECTIVE

To compare the efficacy and patient preference for econazole topical foam, 1% versus ketoconazole cream 2%, on the signs and symptoms of interdigital tinea pedis.

SUBJECTS AND METHODS

Study Design

A single-center, investigator-blinded, observational split body, pilot study

All subjects applied econazole nitrate topical foam, 1% (Ecoza foam) and ketoconazole cream 2% (Nizoral Cream) to either the right or left foot. Study medication was applied twice daily; once in the morning, and once in the evening.

RESULTS

Skindex-16: subjects completed the Skindex-16 at baseline and the final visit. The Skindex-16 is a 35-item patient-reported assessment using a numerical analogue scale (0 = never bothered to 6 = always bothered). Responses to the Skindex-16 are categorized into three sub-scales: symptom, emotional, and functional (4).

Efficacy

Pruritus VAS: at each study visit, subjects assessed the severity of pruritus using a 10-cm VAS with the left side of the scale anchored with “No Itch” and the right side of the scale anchored with “Severe Imaginable Itch”.

Subjects

Twenty subjects (11 males; 9 females; 16 whites; 4 blacks; age 4 to 16 years; range = 14-66 years) with tinea pedis were enrolled.

Subject rated econazole nitrate topical foam, 1% as good or excellent for all properties.

Patient preference was equal for the two study medications, econazole nitrate topical foam, 1% had increased reductions in pruritus VAS scores compared to ketoconazole cream 2%. This suggests that econazole nitrate topical foam, 1% is both clinically effective and has meaningful improvements in patient quality of life.

Figure 1. Results for Pruritus VAS

Figure 2. Results for Skindex-16

CONCLUSIONS

• Econazole nitrate topical foam, 1% was significantly superior to ketoconazole cream 2% for decreasing pruritus VAS scores over 2 weeks of treatment in patients with tinea pedis.

• Treatment also significantly decreased Skindex-16 total scores and scores for all domains comprising the instrument.

• Subject rated econazole nitrate topical foam, 1% as good or excellent for all properties evaluated.

• All of these results support the conclusion that econazole nitrate topical foam, 1% is clinically effective, easy to use, and provides meaningful improvements in patient quality of life.

REFERENCES


