

# Antifungal drugs

dispensed more than antiprotozoal (especially the topical ones)

Pharmacology 3 normal  $\rightarrow$  topicals  $\rightarrow$  Lewis  
Dr. Rawan Abudalo (Ketoconazole سائل  $\rightarrow$  سائل ) +

( Flonase  $\rightarrow$  Fluconazole

Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmacy Practice

( oral  $\rightarrow$  Parenteral )

Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences  
Hashemite University

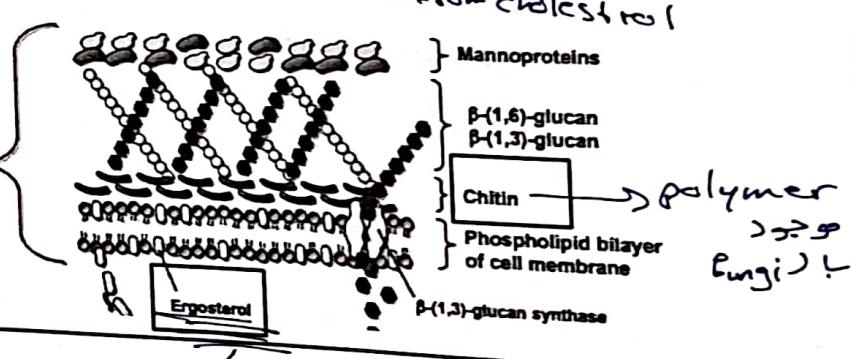
unlike bacteria

## Fungi—Basic Concepts

- Fungi are eukaryotic like their human hosts.  $\rightarrow$  all antifungals are selective toxicity against human cells
- Have ergosterol in their membrane which fungal cells contain in place of cholesterol in human cell membranes
- Have cell wall, which human cells lack

Ergosterol, it's a steroid like lipid layer in Fungal cell

② cell membrane functional units  
cell membrane and cell wall from cholesterol



\* في الأدوية عالي ستنتهي من المركبات

ergosterol cell wall دين عالي ستنتهي

chitin دين عالي ستنتهي

tubules

nucleic acids دين عالي ستنتهي

rather than Cholesterol

# Fungal Infections

mycotic  
infection

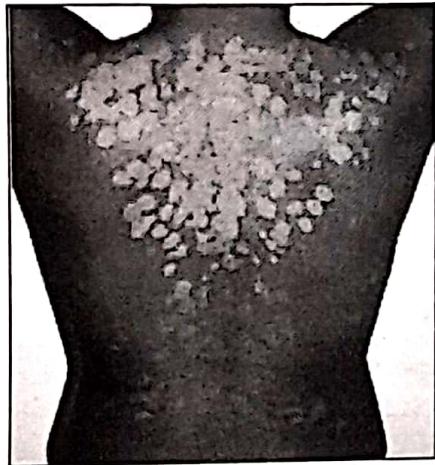
Mycoses : Infectious diseases caused by fungi , they are often chronic in nature.

- post ③ factors site ② of infection Fungal ①: الْجَمِيعُ مُنْتَهٍ إِلَيْهِ الْعُرَجَاتُ الْأَكْثَرُ مُنْتَهٍ إِلَيْهِ الْعُرَجَاتُ الْأَكْثَرُ severity\*
- superficial(common): Candidiasis(thrush), dermatophytosis, onychomycosis. skin  
superficial at the surface (أَعْدَى دَوْسَةٍ حَتَّى نَطْرَافِ الْجَلَدِ) topical treatments (مُنَظَّمٌ وَمُكَرِّمٌ) passes + creams → vaginal infections + local + candidiasis
- Subcutaneous Mycoses: Sporotrichosis  
affect dermis + subcutaneous (جَلَدِ الْفَحْمِ وَجَلَدِ الْمَوْسِ)
- Systemic( deep) fungal infections(serious): aspergillosis  
immuno compromised (disseminated)  
topical treatment  
Systemic infection

## Clinical Classification of Mycoses

Classification	Site Infected	Example
Superficial	Outermost skin and hair	Malasseziasis (tinea versicolor)
Cutaneous	Deep epidermis and nails	Dermatophytosis
Subcutaneous	Dermis and subcutaneous tissue	Sporotrichosis
Systemic	Disease of more than one internal organ	Candidiasis
Opportunistic	(eg; HIV) opportunistic infections non-immunocompetent individuals	Cryptococcosis Aspergillosis Mucormycosis Histoplasmosis Blastomycosis Coccidioidomycosis
Nonopportunistic	very high risk individuals cancer patients immune deficiency	

# Fungal Infections



Tinea Versicolor



Sporotrichosis



Histoplasmosis

مع وجود اختلاف في معانٍ مع هذه

Fungal infections treatment are more difficult than bacterial infections treatment , why ?????

1-Fungi has a cell wall which is quite rigid → chitin + cell membrane contain ergosterol → barrier of treatment  
ergosterol targeted by anti fungal drugs.

scull + ظاهری

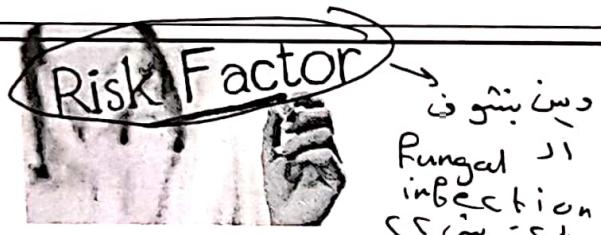
2- Fungal infections occur in poorly vascularized tissues or avascular structures such as superficial layer of the skin, hair, nails.

areas لوانه و مصوّل الدوا نسخة كاربون render

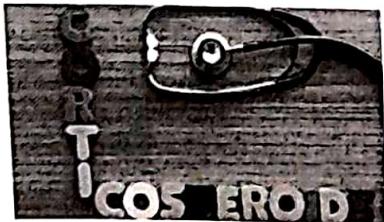
3- Fungi are slow growing (can't target cell division)

كائنات لا زم دعوه بكتيريا بسرعة

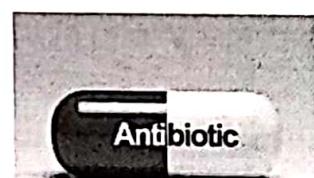
4- they are opportunistic infections (انتهازيين)



oral candidiasis ~~inhalation~~ inhalation corticosteroid



DIABETES



immuno-compromised including:  
① Cancer, diabetes,

& AIDS, ~~inhalation~~ corticosteroid



HIV/AIDS



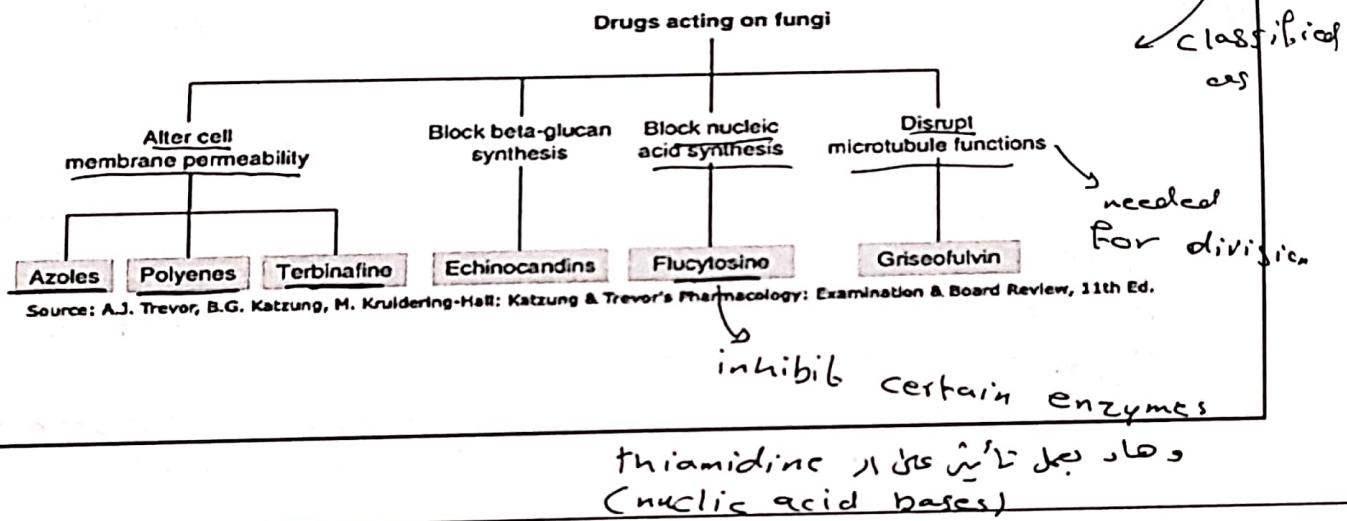
suppression Corticosteroids ~~inhalation~~

↓ ~~immune system~~

Fungi ↓ ~~infection~~

# Antifungal drugs.

depending in their structure + their site of action



## Antifungal drugs.

- Systemic antifungal drugs for systemic infections:
- Amphotericin B.
- Flucytosine
- echinocandins
- Azoles(triazoles).

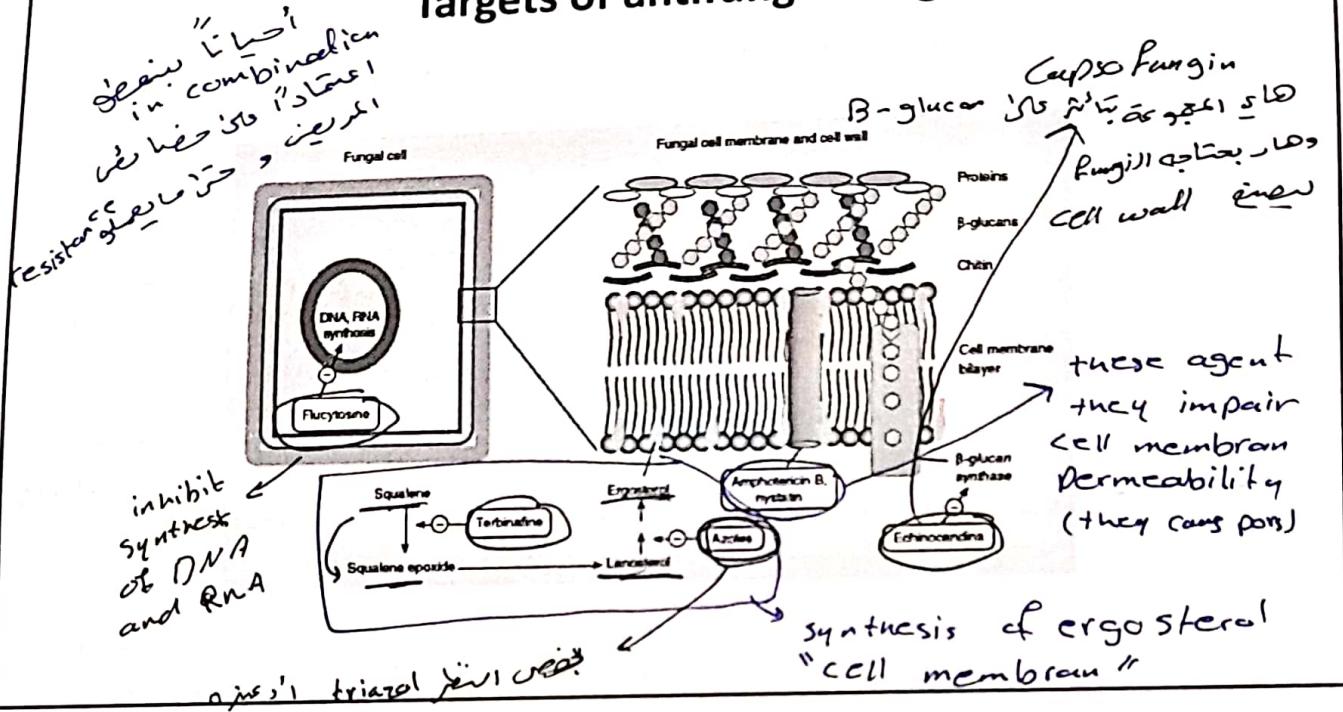
depending on  
their route of  
administration

local / superficial

Oral systemic antifungal drugs for cutaneous infections: Terbinafine,  
Griseofulvin.

- Topical antifungal therapy: For topical use only (موضعية only)  
orally  
Systemic موضعية toxicity
- ❖ Nystatin.
- ❖ topical azoles( imidazoles): موضعية  
Clotrimazole, Miconazole, Ketoconazole.
- ❖ topical allylamines: Terbinafine.

## Targets of antifungal drugs.



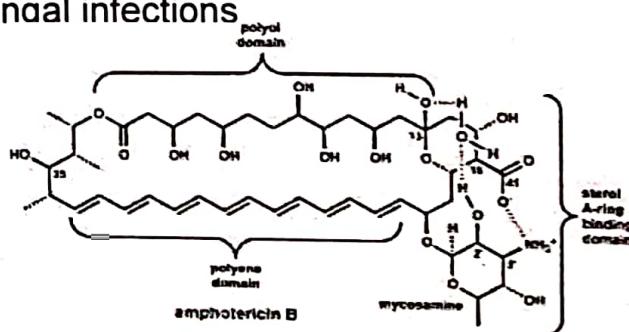
## Drugs for Subcutaneous and Systemic Mycotic Infections

### >Amphotericin B:

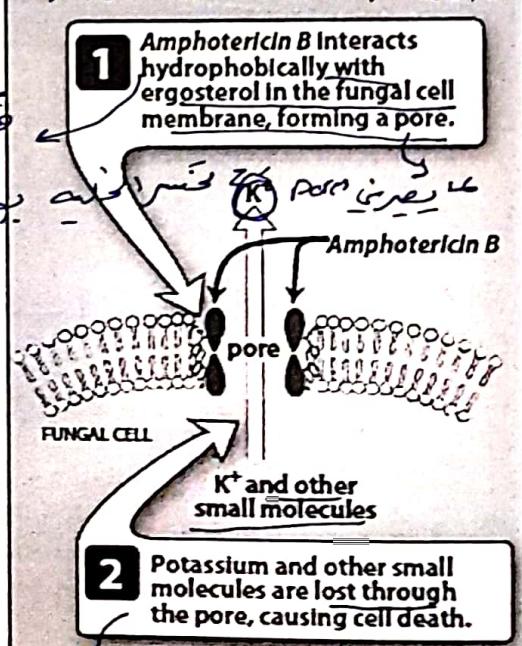
A naturally occurring polyene antifungal produced by *Streptomyces nodosus*

*Streptomyces nodosus*

- Target: ergosterol (cell membrane)
- Fungicidal
- Treating progressive and potentially life-threatening fungal infections



### Mechanism of action:



attraction  $K^+$   $\rightarrow$  electrolytes  $Li^+$   $N$   
 attraction  $\rightarrow$  membrane permeability  
 cell death  $\rightarrow$

## Amphotericin B

so giving parenterally  
orally weak  
orally less  
orally less  
orally weak

□ Poorly absorbed from GIT.  
Orally only for GI fungal infections (FI).  
GFT in orally less

- Amphotericin B is usually given by slow intravenous infusion at a dosage of 0.5–1 mg/kg/d, but in fungal meningitis intrathecal administration.

slowly absorbed  
up to 24 hours

- Highly ptn. Bound, poor penetration to body fluids and tissues.

- Slow elimination in urine and bile → long t<sub>1/2</sub> (2ws).

protein

because of risk of dose related adverse reaction

1 mg IV slow hyper-sensitivity

in plasma highly protein bound  
tissue poor distribution half life  
over dose  
ambidote symptoms + fluids yes

## Amphotericin B

- Given parenterally:

- IV infusion - systemic FI: against Candida albicans and Cryptococcus neoformans; the organisms causing endemic mycoses, including Histoplasma capsulatum, Blastomyces dermatitidis,  
intra the cally
- IT - fungal meningitis.  
IV makes to meningitis poorly absorbed distributed
- Intra articular - fungal joint infections.
- Eye drops - fungal corneal ulcer.  
topical
- Irrigation of bladder - fungal cystitis.

\* most of patient gathering (gathering)

"Painful"

**generalized hypertension**  $\rightarrow$  **عمل**  $\rightarrow$  **افرازات**

## Adverse effects

Slow infusion ~~جَنِيْفَل~~

- Infusion related(immediate reactions): →
    - shake and bake syndrome *لدي اعراض في الكلى يجب ان يتم التحكم في الجرعة*
    - dose *في حال اعراض في الكلى يجب ان يتم التحكم في الجرعة*
    - must be adjusted *في حال اعراض في الكلى يجب ان يتم التحكم في الجرعة*
  - fever, chills, muscle spasm, shock-like fall in BP.hypotension
  - ✓ Slow infusion, start with small dose(a test dose of 1 mg IV) *تحملاً ماء الماء*
  - ✓ Premedication with: antihistamine, antipyretics. + corticosteroid *الماء الماء*
  - Dose-related(Cumulative Toxicity): nephrotoxicity, anemia due to reduced erythropoietin production by damaged renal tubular cells.
  - a bolus infusion of normal saline before and after amphotericin B *تحملاً ماء الماء*
  - Neurotoxicity: Intrathecal administration of amphotericin B may cause seizures *تحملاً ماء الماء*

~~excessive + leakage damage of renal tubules~~  
they will alter erythropoietin release → fluid, + electrolyte secretion

- Three lipid formulations of amphotericin B: amphotericin B colloidal dispersion, amphotericin B lipid complex, and liposomal amphotericin B.  $\text{Liposome} \rightarrow \text{Lipid bilayer}$
  - They have been developed in an attempt to reduce the toxicity profile of this drug and to increase efficacy.  $\xrightarrow{\text{by}} \text{Solubility} + \text{Lipid solubility} \rightarrow \text{clear}$
  - Prior to reconstitution Amphotericin B Intravenous should be stored in the refrigerator, protected against exposure to light. The reconstituted solution may be stored in the dark, at room temperature for 24 hours, or at refrigerator temperatures for 1 week with minimal loss of potency and clarity.  $\xrightarrow{\text{Change in color}}$
  - Any unused material should then be discarded. Solutions prepared for intravenous infusion should be used promptly after preparation and should be protected from light during administration using foil.

## ➤ Echinocandins → the

- Echinocandins are the newest class of antifungal agents to be developed.
- Caspofungin, micafungin are the only licensed agents in this category of antifungals. They affect  $\beta$ -glucan that is needed for the synthesis of cell wall.  
Caspofungin is used for disseminated and mucocutaneous Candida infections in patients who fail to respond to amphotericin B.
- they are well tolerated. Infusion-related effects of caspofungin include headache, GI distress, fever, rash, and flushing (histamine release). Less common than amphotericin B.
- Combined use of echinocandins with cyclosporine may elevate liver transaminases.

(synergistic effect) flucytosine → in  
amphotericin → de pores  
to increase the uptake of the drug

## ➤ Flucytosine (5-FC)

- nucleic acids → antimetabolite
- Synthetic pyrimidine is often used with amphotericin B for the treatment of systemic mycoses and meningitis caused by Cryptococcus neoformans and Candida albicans.
  - Orally, distributed to most body tissues (including the CNS) → amphotericin B.
  - Eliminated intact in the urine (dose reduced in renal impairment)
  - When given with amphotericin B or triazoles (resistance decreased & synergistic antifungal effects).
  - Narrow spectrum (clinical use limited to combination with amphotericin B or a triazole)
  - Toxicity: reversible bone marrow depression, alopecia & liver dysfunction (prolonged high levels).  
anticancer & ADR →  
dose adjustment

# Azole Antifungals

## Triazole

- Fluconazole
- Posaconazole
- Itraconazole
- Voriconazole

## Imidazole

- Butoconazole
- Econazole
- Clotrimazole
- Ketoconazole
- Miconazole

The azoles used for systemic mycoses include ketoconazole, fluconazole, itraconazole, voriconazole, and posaconazole.

- Miconazole, and clotrimazole are used only in topical therapy.

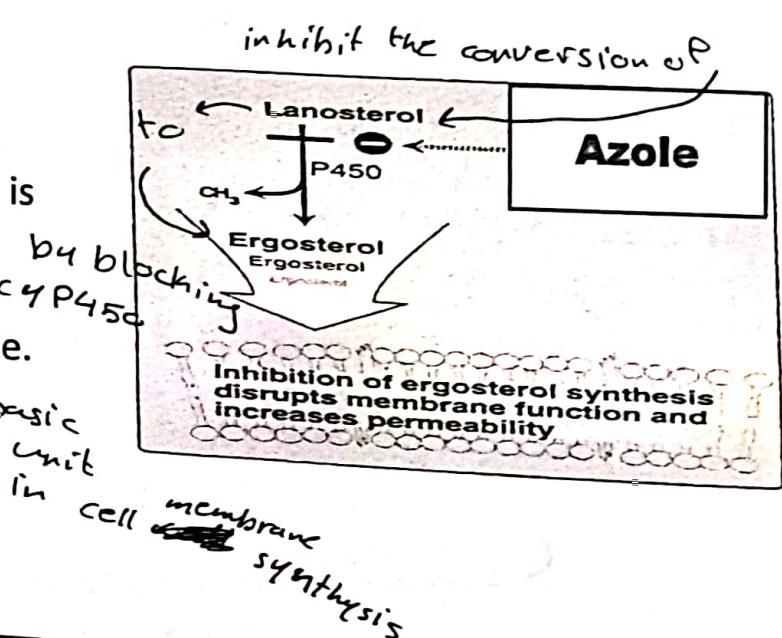
## Mechanism of action of azoles

Target: inhibit ergosterol synthesis.

They inhibit "Cytochrome P450" which is responsible for demethylation of lanosterol to form ergosterol and then the membrane permeability will increase.

Azoles are predominantly fungistatic

not Cidal



they differ in their water solubility

## Characteristics of Azoles

+ ~~their absorption in the CSF + serum conc. + result of~~

Oral bioavailability is variable (normal gastric acidity is required).

elimination  
(renal, hepatic or both)

• Fluconazole, itraconazole and voriconazole are available in both oral and intravenous formulations.

• The drugs are distributed to most body tissues, but with the exception of fluconazole, drug levels achieved in the CNS are very low.

• Liver metabolism is responsible for the elimination of azole antifungals except fluconazole (which is eliminated by the kidneys, largely in unchanged form).

### Pharmacologic properties of systemic azole drugs.

ideal time ٤١ +  $\frac{1}{2}$  JI

	Water Solubility	Absorption	CSF: Serum Concentration Ratio	$t_{1/2}$ (hours)	Elimination	Formulations
Ketoconazole	Low	Variable	<0.1	7-10	Hepatic	Oral
Itraconazole	Low	Variable	<0.01	24-42	Hepatic	Oral, IV
<u>Fluconazole</u>	High	High	>0.7	22-31	<u>Renal</u>	Oral, IV
Voriconazole	High	High	>0.21	6	Hepatic	Oral, IV
Posaconazole	Low	High	-	25	Hepatic	Oral, IV
Bavconazole	High	High	-	130	Hepatic	Oral, IV

Fluconazole

cryptococcal meningitis

renal failure

desfunction

## Clinical uses

- Ketoconazole— used orally + topically
- It has a narrow antifungal spectrum and causes more adverse effects than other azoles, ketoconazole is now rarely used for systemic mycoses.

drug-drug + endocrin interaction system adverse reaction

dermatophytes

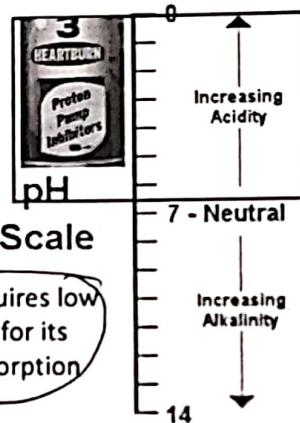
However, ketoconazole continues to be used for chronic mucocutaneous candidiasis and is also effective against dermatophytes. It is also used topically in the treatment of seborrheic dermatitis and dandruff



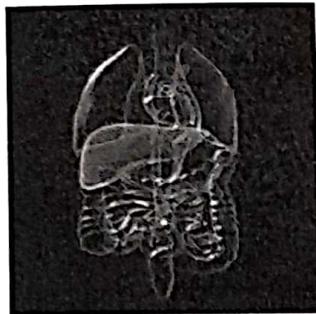


~~available~~  
available  
as cream + shampoo

### Ketoconazole



" requires low PH for its absorption



systemic ketoconazole has fallen out of clinical use, why??  
inhibits mammalian cytochrome P450.

Anti-androgenic effect

Fatal hepatotoxicity(rare)

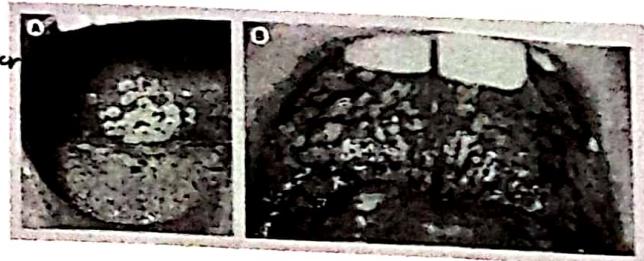
### Cancer patients + AIDS + immune system infections → Clinical uses

use dose is  
50, 150 → for single daily

- **Fluconazole**— (readily eliminated, has good CNS penetration)

is a drug of choice in esophageal and oropharyngeal candidiasis and for most infections caused by Coccidioides. A single oral dose usually eradicates vaginal candidiasis. Fluconazole is the drug of choice for treatment and secondary prophylaxis against cryptococcal meningitis and is an alternative drug of choice (with amphotericin B) in treatment of active disease due to Cryptococcus neoformans.

Pus sample  
type



## Fluconazole

Its oral bioavailability is high, it has a high degree of water solubility and good cerebrospinal fluid penetration. It is available in oral and intravenous formulations. Unlike the other medications it doesn't need hepatic metabolism and better gastrointestinal tolerance, low pH permits more aggressive dosing in a variety of fungal infections.

جداً مفعوله في الماء  
ويetration جيدة  
وينترادن في السائل الدماغي الشمالي

Because of fewer hepatic enzyme interactions and better gastrointestinal tolerance, low pH fluconazole has the widest therapeutic index of the azoles, permitting more aggressive dosing in a variety of fungal infections.

الآن لا يعتمد على الإنزيمات الكبدية  
وتحتمل الأحماض  
فهو يزيد من امتصاصه

carries ketoconazole  
it doesn't need hepatic metabolism  
therap. → hepatic iso-enzym interaction

DIFLUCAN 150mg



CONTRA-INDICATIONS

Azoles are considered teratogenic, and they should be avoided in pregnancy unless the potential benefit outweighs the risk to the fetus.

في حال عدم الحاجة لاستخدام الأدوية المحتوية على الأزولات في فترة الحمل، يجب الامتناع عنها.



- **Itraconazole** *fluconazole similarity & I*
- has a broad antifungal spectrum compared to fluconazole. Itraconazole is the drug of choice for the treatment of blastomycosis, sporotrichosis.

- In esophageal candidiasis, the drug is active against some strains resistant to fluconazole. Itraconazole is also used extensively in the treatment of dermatophyoses, especially onychomycosis, infection of nails + hair skuls.
- is available in oral and intravenous formulations.
- The drug distributes well in most tissues, including bone and adipose tissues.
- Has a negative inotropic effect and should be avoided in patients with evidence of ventricular dysfunction, such as heart failure. *cardiac depression → myocardial depression → heart failure*

*positive inotropic due digoxin acts ← the effect of digoxin*

### **voriconazole**

- It is a drug of choice for treatment of invasive aspergillosis.
- It is an alternative drug in candidemia with activity against some fluconazole-resistant organisms.
- In AIDS patients has been used in the treatment of candidal esophagitis and stomatitis.
- Voriconazole causes immediate but transient visual disturbances including blurring of vision of unknown cause

## Adverse Effects of systemic azoles

menstrual irregularity in females  
+  
↓  
↓  
↓

- include vomiting, diarrhea, rash, and sometimes hepatotoxicity, especially in patients with preexisting liver dysfunction.
- Ketoconazole is a notorious inhibitor of hepatic cytochrome P450 isozymes and may increase the plasma levels of many other drugs, including cyclosporine, oral hypoglycemics, phenytoin, and warfarin.
- The other azoles are more selective inhibitors of fungal cytochrome P450. Although they are less likely than ketoconazole to cause endocrine dysfunction, their inhibitory effects on liver drug-metabolizing enzymes have resulted in drug interactions.

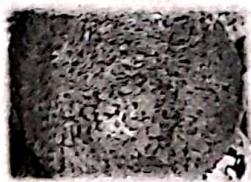
## Cutaneous mycotic infections (dermatomycoses)

tinea

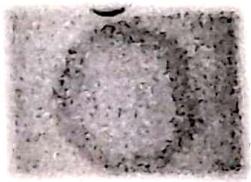
- ✓ Mold-like fungi that cause most cutaneous infections are called dermatophytes or tinea.



Tinea pedis  
(infection of the  
feet) → athlete's  
foot



Tinea capitis  
(scalp)



Tinea corporis  
(body)



Tinea unguium  
(nails)

### Tinea infections

Common dermatomycoses, such as tinea infections that appear as rings or round red patches with clear centers, are often referred to as ringworm. → ring in a circle

## Systemic drugs for mucocutaneous fungal infections

+ terpinatin

- Griseofulvin is not active topically and is fungistatic. Used systemically. Oral absorption depends on the drug physical state (ultra-micro-size formulations have finer particles, more effectively absorbed, aided by high-fat foods).

Fat food & تناول الدهون، ultra micro size لـ abs. في الميكرو فرمولاسيون

Indicated for dermatophytoses of the skin and hair, but has been largely replaced by terbinafine and the azoles. requires a long duration of treatment (for example, 6 to 12 months for onychomycosis). Duration of therapy is dependent on the rate of replacement of healthy skin and nails.

لечение المرضي يمتد لـ 12 - 6 شهور، على الأقل، لـ improvement

- Griseofulvin decreases the bioavailability of warfarin, resulting in decreased anticoagulant effect.

↓ ↓ interaction ↑

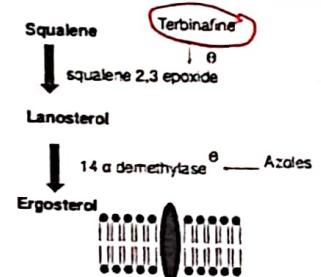
### Terbinafine

أدوية مفعولها السريع (على سqualene) ضد + ergosterol

أدوية مفعولها السريع

- MOA: inhibit epoxidation of squalene accumulation is toxic to fungi.
- Clinical application: subcutaneous fungal infection accumulates in keratin.
- One tablet given daily for 12 weeks achieves a cure rate of up to 90% for onychomycosis and is more effective than griseofulvin or itraconazole.

#### Mechanism of action:



- Terbinafine is fungicidal and is available in both oral and topical forms.

أدوية مفعولها السريع

- Like griseofulvin, terbinafine accumulates in keratin, but it is much more effective than griseofulvin in onychomycosis

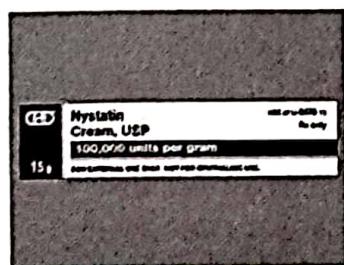


# TOPICAL ANTIFUNGAL THERAPY

1. Nystatin:
2. Topical azoles(imidazole) : clotrimazole,  
Miconazole, Ketoconazole.
3. Topical allylamines:Terbinafine.

DOC  
oncomycosis c. ker

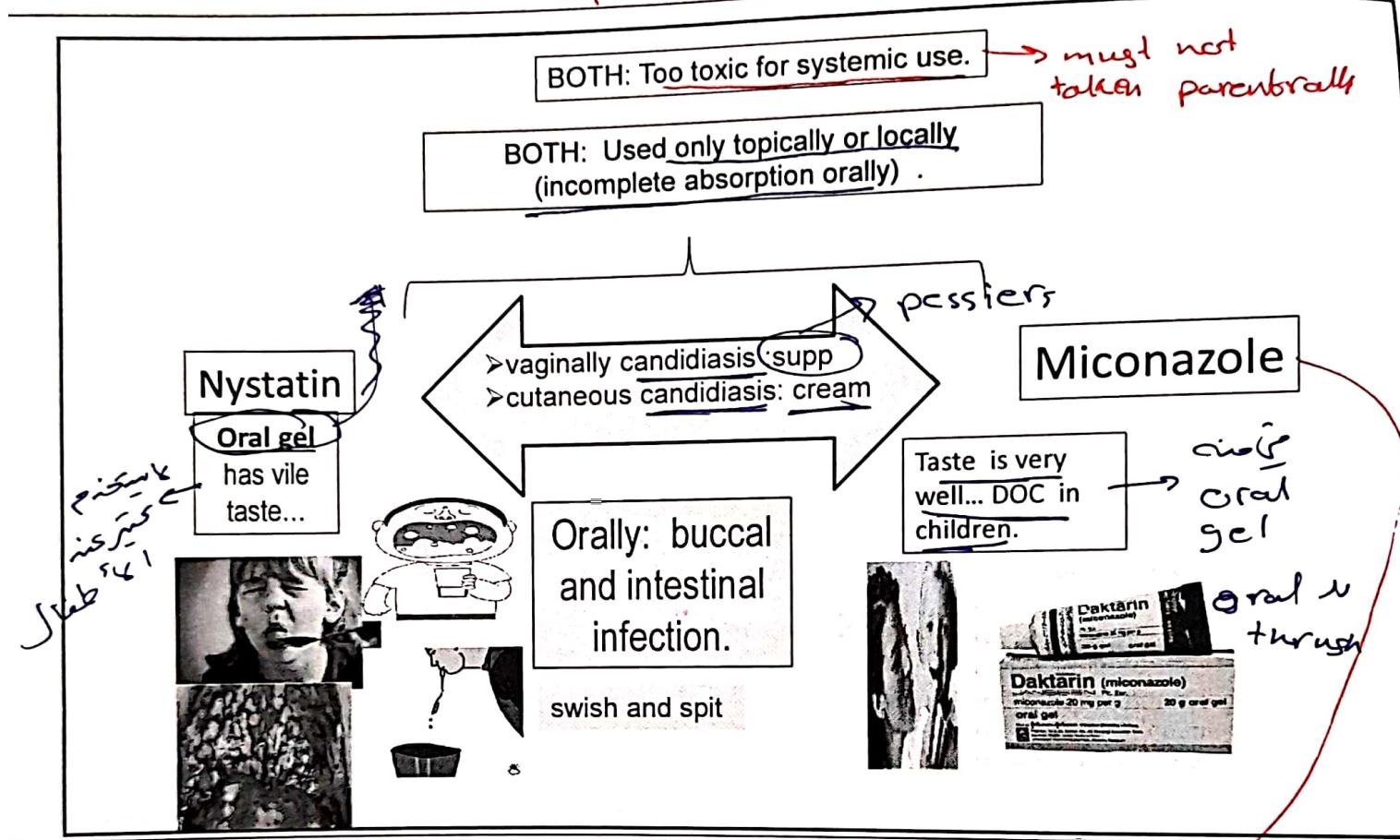
Nystatin



- for the treatment of cutaneous and oral Candida infections.
- is negligibly absorbed from the gastrointestinal tract, and it is not used parenterally due to systemic toxicity.
- It is administered as an oral agent ("swish and swallow" or "swish and spit") for the treatment of oropharyngeal candidiasis (thrush), intravaginally for vulvovaginal candidiasis, or topically for cutaneous candidiasis.

orally & i.v  
negligibly absorbed

## miconazole + nystatin



swish & swallow  
& spit

poorly absorbed  
only locally active