The Use of an Antifungal Cream with Olivamine* in the Treatment of Cutaneous Candidiasis in Bariatric Patients

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Olivamine is a proprietary blend of ingredients. A particular sulfur containing ingredient, methylsulfonylmethane, is also known to reduce the conduction of pain stimulus, a factor that may have led to the sense of comfort that these patients felt in this respect, the improvements in the skin health observed for all the patients were remarkable based on our visual observations, as well as the simple numerical scoring system used to assess each of the stated criteria, and the observations were recorded in the patient charts. Because of the study limitations (open label, non-controlled, non-randomized, limited sample size) no statistical evaluation was performed.

L.H. (Patient 1) is a 75 year old male that was admitted to the hospital with new onset CVA and respiratory failure. He developed cutaneous candidiasis to bilateral axillary areas. Treated for 1 week and candida completely resolved.

We believe that based on the observations of our limited pilot study, further larger scale studies with appropriate controls, randomization, and statistical design may be warranted.

METHODS

This product is a drug as defined by the FDA and contained the monograph for miconazole nitrate is a well known antifungal agent. The product which also included miconazole nitrate, was used to assess each of the stated criteria, and the observations were recorded in the patient charts. Because of the study limitations (open label, non-controlled, non-randomized, limited sample size) no statistical evaluation was performed.

DISCUSSIONS

This product is a drug as defined by the FDA and contained the monograph for miconazole nitrate is a well known antifungal agent. The product which also included miconazole nitrate, was used to assess each of the stated criteria, and the observations were recorded in the patient charts. Because of the study limitations (open label, non-controlled, non-randomized, limited sample size) no statistical evaluation was performed.

The presence of antioxidants is possibly another factor in improving skin health. Hydroxytyrosol, present in olive extract, is known to be a potent natural antioxidant (8), and its presence in the product may have benefits that need further study on large patient population. In addition, the absence of pruritus was noticeable, and probably implicated petrolatum containing products that promote underlying microbial growth.

REFERENCES


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BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVE

Obese patient skin is characterized by the presence of folds, and a high level of sweat production (1). Infections involving Candida albicans, a species of fungus, are common in such patients, within skin folds as well as the groin and axilla. The infective pathogens colonize in warm moist areas. Such conditions can lead to the formation of pustules, which subsequently rupture leading to formation of new pustules in the periphery. There is further inflammation, pruritus, and significant discomfort to the patient. Diagnosis is usually performed via inspection and fungal culture (2). Secondary bacterial infections are common. Predisposing factors may be involved, such as hot weather, poor hygiene, tight clothing, skin disorders such as psoriasis, and the use of topical steroids (3).

METHODS

This prospective, non-randomized, uncontrolled open label pilot study, five morbidly obese inpatients, clinically diagnosed cutaneous candidiasis were recruited for the evaluation of an antifungal cream. The active ingredient: 2% miconazole nitrate is a well known antifungal agent. The product which also included miconazole nitrate, was used to assess each of the stated criteria, and the observations were recorded in the patient charts. Because of the study limitations (open label, non-controlled, non-randomized, limited sample size) no statistical evaluation was performed.

CONCLUSIONS

It was observed that each of the patients studied had complete resolution of the fungal infection over the course of the study. In addition, quality of life indicators studied, such as erythema, pain, and odor control improved for each patient included in this study. No adverse events, related to the use of the products were observed.

Score Key: 0 Absent  1 Mild  2 Moderate  3 Severe

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<tr>
<th>Criteria Assessed</th>
<th>Before Treatment</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>After Treatment</th>
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<td>Fungal growth</td>
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</table>

*Recently Antifungal Cream from Medline Industries, Inc., Mundelein, IL. Remedy is a registered trademark of Medline Industries, Inc.