SINGLE-DOSE VERSUS 14-DAY FLUCONAZOLE FOR OROPHARYNGEAL CANDIDIASIS IN HIV PATIENTS

Investigators conducted a prospective, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial to compare the clinical and mycologic responses, relapse rates, and safety of single-dose (750 mg) oral fluconazole versus the standard 14-day course of oral fluconazole (150 mg/day) for treating oropharyngeal candidiasis in HIV-infected adults. Patients with confirmed oropharyngeal candidiasis were recruited from an HIV clinic (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania) between November 2006 and December 2007 and received either single-dose (n = 110) or 14-day fluconazole (n = 110). Clinical cure occurred in 105 (95.5%) patients taking 14-day fluconazole and in 104 (94.5%) patients taking single-dose fluconazole, with no significant difference in clinical efficacy between the 2 groups (odds ratio [OR], 0.825 [95% confidence interval [CI], 0.244–2.789]; P = 0.99). Likewise, mycologic cure occurred in 83 (75.5%) patients taking 14-day fluconazole and in 93 (84.5%) patients taking single-dose fluconazole, with no significant difference in mycologic efficacy between the 2 groups (OR, 1.780 [95% CI, 0.906–3.496]; P = 0.129). Drug-related adverse events were uncommon and were similar between the treatment groups. Single-dose fluconazole was as safe and effective as standard 14-day therapy in HIV-infected patients who had oropharyngeal candidiasis coinfection.


EPIDEMIOLOGY AND PROGNOSIS OF HEALTH CARE–ASSOCIATED INFECTIVE ENDOCARDITIS

Researchers conducted a prospective, observational cohort study to describe the features of health care–associated infective endocarditis (HAIE) and to identify risk factors for mortality. Between 2000 and 2007, all adult patients presenting consecutively to a teaching hospital (Barcelona, Spain) with definite or probable infective endocarditis (59.5% versus 29.6%; P < 0.005) and enterococcal infections (OR, 1.8 [95% CI, 0.04–0.81]; P = 0.026) independently predicted 1-year mortality for HAIE patients. Overall, HAIE independently predicted inhospital death (OR, 2.83 [95% CI, 1.34–5.98]; P = 0.007) and 1-year mortality (OR, 2.59 [95% CI, 1.25–5.39]; P = 0.011). HAIE is associated with considerable mortality.


TMP-SMX– AND FLUOROQUINOLONE-RESISTANT E. COLI INFECTION IN PATIENTS WITH PYELONEPHRITIS

The authors conducted a cross-sectional study of adult patients with pyelonephritis presenting to 11 US emergency departments (2001–2004) to determine the prevalence of Escherichia coli resistance to trimethoprim-sulfamethoxazole (TMP-SMX) and fluoroquinolones. Of 689 included cases of pyelonephritis due to a single uropathogen, E. coli caused 403 (94%) of 429 uncomplicated cases and 207 (80%) of 260 complicated cases. Of the uncomplicated cases, mean site rates of E. coli resistance were TMP-SMX, 24%; ciprofloxacin, 1%; and levofloxacin, 3%. Of 384 patients with TMP-SMX resistance, only TMP-SMX exposure within 2 days before presentation (5 [100%] of 5 isolates) and Hispanic ethnicity (57 [39%] of 145 isolates tested) were associated with E. coli resistance to TMP-SMX. In contrast, women who did not have these features had lower resistance rates (96 [25%] of 377 isolates presenting after day 2 and 45 [19%] of 239 isolates from non-Hispanic women). Of the complicated cases, mean site rates of E. coli resistance for ciprofloxacin and levofloxacin were 5% and 6%, respectively. TMP-SMX–resistant infection prevalence among patients with uncomplicated pyelonephritis may be 20% or higher in many areas of the United States. Fluoroquinolone-resistant E. coli infection appears to be low but is more common in patients with complicated infections. Fluoroquinolones should remain the preferred empirical treatment for women with uncomplicated pyelonephritis.


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