

**Moderator:** what types of antifungal drugs do you have in your pharmacy?

**Respondent:** there are topical antifungal drugs and there are also drugs that are prepared in the form of tablets. Griseofulvin and clotrimazole are available in our pharmacy. Clotrimazole is the ointment.

**Moderator:** which one is the most common used antifungal drug?

**Respondent:** the drugs are prescribed not in the people's preference but the doctors or the physicians prescribe it. The right medication for the right patient. Mostly the ketoconazole, clotrimazole. Ketoconazole in the tablet form, in the shampoo form and in the cream form. Mostly ketoconazole is the most known antifungal drug. Clotrimazole is the ointment one and the fluconazole is also available in the tablet form. As the patient status the physician can prescribe those antifungal drugs.

**Moderator:** does the physician focus on the issue of the accessibility, availability and affordability or the drug?

**Respondent:** now a days in our pharmacy ketoconazole is not available. And so the physician will prescribe the clotrimazole.

**Moderator:** so they depend on the availability?

**Respondent:** it depends on the availability and the status of the disease they can use available drug.

**Moderator:** when was the last time the ketoconazole was available?

**Respondent:** for long time I haven't seen it in the pharmacy.

**Moderator:** more than six month or one year?

**Respondent:** just three month.

**Moderator:** is it only the physician who will prescribe or the patient will come to you and can get the drug from you without the prescription?

**Respondent:** if the patient come and ask those drug we never dispense the drug it should be prescribed by the physician and the authorized body.

**Moderator:** where do you get those drugs?

**Respondent:** we get these drugs from the PFSA and also from the whole sellers, if the drug is not available at the PFSA, we will buy from the wholesalers.

**Moderator:** do you know what percentage roughly of your drug you will get from the PFSA Vs private?

**Respondent:** there is no scarcity of those drugs. The antifungal they are available most of the time.

**Moderator:** do you have any challenge regarding the availability, accessibility and affordability or the policy of the drugs?

**Respondent:** not that much expensive they are cheap but the attention of the physician on this drug may be not so much. Everybody mention only the ketoconazole, fluconazole and the clotrimazole. They seems that these drugs are equal but their usage may be different. So mostly the prescriber not give much attention for these drugs.

**Moderator:** they don't get prescribed often?

**Respondent:** they are prescribed but they don't prescribe as antibiotic for example. When you prescribe the antibiotic you will see the patient status, the type of bacteria causing this disease? Depending on that you prescribe. But on the fungal medications I think there is a gap.

**Moderator:** they don't work out with fungal type it is?

**Respondent:** yes.

**Moderator:** so you raised the challenge and what should be improved? What other things you want to add other than this? Who should do what?

**Respondent:** there is no that much challenge happen, but we have to teach the prescribers, give attention to the fungal medication. Since we are the pharmacist, we can improve the knowledge of the prescribers. About the antifungal drugs. And in the future if that is done it will be right.

**Moderator:** is there any antifungal medication prepared in our country?

**Respondent:** I don't know. I don't have any information about this one. But I think it's not that much harder to produce it here. I don't know the reality.

**Moderator:** do the drugs that you are giving had a side effect on the patients?

**Respondent:** those antifungal like the ketoconazole can cause serious liver damage or problem. If you the topical one that is nice. But if the fungus is attacking the nails, we can't use the topical one when we use the PO drugs it's nice to cure the disease.

**Moderator:** is it along course of treatment to cure?

**Respondent:** it takes long duration. In this long duration the liver may be damaged. To treat the fungus that will attack the nail it will take long period of time. When we take this medication for a long period of time it will cause the liver damage. This is also one obstacle for the prescribers since it will have liver side effect. This one problem.

**Moderator:** is there any issue with the patient if they know that it will cause the liver damage? Will they stop taking the drug?

**Respondent:** I haven't heard any complaint.

**Moderator:** is there any issue of resistance? With the antifungal you are prescribing or dispensing?

**Respondent:** I haven't heard.

**Moderator:** have you seen any of these disease?

**Respondent:** this is the tinea capitis which attack the scalp the body of the patient. This is the tinea unguium which will attack the nail of the patient.

**Moderator:** if one of your family member had this what would you recommend?

**Respondent:** antifungal medications, for this one we can use the ketoconazole shampoo. We can also use the griseofulvin for the antifungal medication. Those cases can be cured.

**Moderator:** are the medications expensive?

**Respondent:** it's not expensive.

**Moderator:** even if they take it for a long time can they afford these medications?

**Respondent:** affordability is not a problem. It's not as such expensive.

**Moderator:** do you think these are common problems for people?

**Respondent:** yes it's common problem.

**Moderator:** do you think there is any link between the fungal disease of the animals and the fungal disease of the humans?

**Respondent:** I am not sure. It may have a relation. I don't have as such information about the animal fungal disease.

**Moderator:** how do the patients think got this disease is it from the animals or from the people? How do you think it's transferred?

**Respondent:** those fungal disease may be transferred from the patient to the healthy one. But regarding from the animal to human am not sure. If the animal has a disease and get contact with the human I think it can get transferred.

**Moderator:** do you have people coming here to get medications for their animals?

**Respondent:** nobody comes here for their animal case.

**Moderator:** that is great. Is there anything you want to add about antifungal medication that we haven't covered?

**Respondent:** there is no full attention for these dermal problem in our country. If there is attention there will be researches done regarding the fungal medications. The medication status will increase. There must be standard prescription for the fungal disease. Every physician will prescribe whatever they think right. The research also should be done.