

200,000 WONDROUS SPECIES

T. rubrum



In the world of bacteria and bacterial infections clinicians feel quite at home. Strangely, this is not usually the case in the world of fungi and fungal infections. With its 200,000 species it seems like a complex domain.

Yet only some 100 of them are pathogenic to man. And clinically they can be classified in three main fields:

C. albicans



I. THE "KERATINOUS" MYCOSES: prototypes are the tinea infections whose battlefield is the keratinous skin and the nails, and whose causative agents belong to the dermatophytes;

II. THE "MOISTENING" MYCOSES: prototypes are vaginal candidosis and oral thrush. These can only develop in moist environments and are invariably caused by yeasts;

III. THE "SYSTEMIC" MYCOSES: these develop in the internal organs when the general or regional immunity is defective; although predominantly caused by yeasts, "modern" pathology increasingly encounters rather more specific fungi... *Aspergillus* — not a yeast but a fungus all on its own — is the dominant example.

Aspergillus niger



Thus a complex world looks a lot simpler. Which can likewise be said of modern antifungal therapy:

Sporanox^{*}

itraconazole

SHORT AND SIMPLE ORAL THERAPY

standard dose in dermatology: 1 capsule (100 mg) once daily for 15 days
standard dose in gynaecology: 2 x 2 capsules (400 mg) for 1 day only

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JANSSEN
PHARMACEUTICA
2340 Beerse, Belgium
the drug discovery company

Properties: Sporanox (itraconazole), a triazole derivative, is orally active against infections with dermatophytes (*Trichophyton* spp., *Microsporum* spp., *Epidermophyton floccosum*), yeasts (*Candida* spp., *Pityrosporum* spp.), *Aspergillus* spp. and various other yeasts and fungi. **Indications:** Sporanox (itraconazole) is indicated for vulvovaginal candidosis, pityriasis versicolor, dermatophytoses, fungal keratitis and oral candidosis. **Dosage and administration:** Vulvovaginal candidosis: 2 capsules (200 mg) morning and evening for 1 day,

Pityriasis versicolor: 2 capsules (200 mg) once daily for 7 days. - Tinea corporis, tinea cruris, tinea pedis, tinea manus: 1 capsule (100 mg) daily for 15 days; highly keratinized regions, as in plantar tinea pedis and palmar tinea manus, require 1 capsule (100 mg) daily for 30 days. - Oral candidosis: 1 capsule (100 mg) daily for 15 days. - Fungal keratitis: 2 capsules (200 mg) once daily for 21 days. **Contra-indications:** Sporanox (itraconazole) is contra indicated during pregnancy. **Warnings and precautions:** Although clinically

Sporanox (itraconazole) has not been associated with hepatic dysfunction, it is advisable not to give it to patients with a known history of liver disease. **Mothers:** It is recommended not to breast-feed while taking Sporanox (itraconazole). **Drug interactions:** Sporanox (itraconazole) should not be given simultaneously with rifampicin.

Full prescribing information is available on request.

References 1 Knutti JE, et al. Dig Dis Sci 29:194 (1984); 2 Kantilas JP, et al. Gastroenterology 91:897 (1986); 3 Magera SD, et al. Gastroenterology 88:723 (1985); 4 Cecchetti P, et al. Gut 29:631 (1988); 5 Collins BJ, et al. Hepato-Gastroenterol 34:113 (1987); 6 Jian R, et al. Dig Dis Sci 34:657 (1989).