



INFECTIOUS DISEASES (BACTERIAL, FUNGAL, VIRAL, PARASITIC, INFESTATIONS)

TOPICAL USE OF 1% LULICONAZOLE CREAM CURED WITH FUSARIUM OXYSPORUM INFECTED REFRACTORY ULCERS ON AN ELDERLY PATIENT'S LEG AND ANKLE

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Background: A 73-year-old male patient presented with wound in the left leg and ankle for 5 months.

Observation: The patient applied several kinds of fresh herbal on his wound as the treatment with topical and systemic antibiotics were ineffective. He was admitted to the hospital because the wound turned into a painful ulcer. The cutaneous examination showed left leg with moderate edema and two ulcers each sized 4cmx4cm. The ulcer surfaces covered with black crusts and yellowish exudates. Under fluorescence microscope of the fluorescence staining of the crusts showed irregular septate hyphae and large round spores. Whitish colonies developed while inoculating the crusts on Sabouraud Dextrose Agar with 25°C for 3 days. The pathogen was identified as *Fusarium oxysporum* after DNA was extracted, by PCR and sequence. Histopathology showed a large number of hyphae on the surface of ulcer, with infiltrate of neutrophils at the bottom. Hence, the diagnosis of Fusariumosis was confirmed. The crusts and wound exudates were removed by wound dressing. Based on the drug sensitivity test, itraconazole and terbinafine was excluded and treated with the topical use of 1% luliconazole cream and povidone-iodine. After treating nearly for 7 months, both the ulcers reduced to 1cmx1cm, with no any side effects. Luliconazole, a new topical use azole, is more efficient to treat *Fusarium oxysporum* infection, approved in vivo and in vitro in this rare case.

Key words: Fusariumosis; *Fusarium oxysporum*; elderly patient; luliconazole

