

Butoconazole nitrate: 1% and 2% creams compare well with miconazole nitrate in vaginal candidiasis

In a double-blind multicentre study, the efficacy of the antifungal butoconazole nitrate [Syntex] was compared with that of miconazole nitrate in 130 women with vaginal candidiasis. Patients were randomly assigned to daily treatment with 5g of butoconazole nitrate 1% (44 patients) or 2% (45 patients) vaginal cream or miconazole nitrate 2% (41 patients) vaginal cream for 6 days. Approximately 8 and 28 days after the completion of treatment, patients participated in follow-up visits.

At the first follow-up visit, *Candida albicans* cultures were negative in 91% of the butoconazole nitrate 1% group, 98% of the butoconazole nitrate 2% group and 83% of the miconazole nitrate 2% group. At the second visit, the corresponding microbiological cure rates were: 80% in the butoconazole nitrate 1% group; 82% in the butoconazole nitrate 2% group; and 68% in the miconazole nitrate 2% group. Differences between the cure rates for the 3 treatment groups were not significant. At the first follow-up visit, clinical cure was achieved in 75% of the butoconazole nitrate 1% group, 78% of the butoconazole nitrate 2% group and 68% of the miconazole nitrate 2% group. At the second visit, the corresponding values were 67%, 73% and 66%, respectively. There was a considerable decrease in vaginal discharge in all 3 groups at both follow-up visits and, at the second follow-up visit, only 16% of the butoconazole nitrate 2% group suffered from continued discharge. Six of the original 140 patients included in the study experienced side effects during treatment. Two butoconazole recipients reported headache and 2 vaginal burning while 1 miconazole recipient experienced leakage of cream and 1 experienced bleeding.

The authors concluded that butoconazole nitrate 2% vaginal cream is '**. . . at least as effective as other imidazole derivatives used for the treatment of vaginal candidiasis**'.

Jacobson, J.B.; Hajman, A.J.; Wiese, J.; Grandrup, P. and Forsström, S.: *Acta Obstetrica et Gynecologica Scandinavica* 64: 241-244 (No 3, 1985)