

Galway: GAPP - Galway Antimicrobial Prescribing Policy / Guidelines (GAPP): Fungal

Fungal

1. **Medical assessment** is required before prescribing antifungal therapy.
2. For suspected oral candidiasis send a **swab** for fungal culture to microbiology to confirm fungal infection.
3. For **recurrent or refractory or severe** infection send a repeat swab for fungal culture and sensitivities and discuss with Microbiology or Infectious Diseases.
4. In immunocompromised patients a high index of suspicion of infection is advised. ■

Empiric Treatment of Fungal Infections		
Infection	Treatment	Comment
Oropharyngeal candidiasis	Mild Nystatin suspension PO 5ml every 6 hours after food. Swish and swallow, leaving in contact with mouth for at least 30 seconds.	Duration usually for 7 to 14 days
	Moderate to severe Fluconazole PO 100 - 200mg every 24 hours	Duration usually for 7 to 14 days
	Fluconazole refractory Contact Microbiology or Infectious Diseases	
	Denture related As above plus disinfection of dentures	
Oesophageal candidiasis	Fluconazole PO 200 - 400mg every 24 hours	Duration 14 to 21 days
Acute Vulvovaginal candidiasis (VVC)	Recommended regimen (Non-pregnant / non-breastfeeding): Fluconazole capsule 150 mg as a single dose, orally Recommended topical regimen (if oral therapy contraindicated): Clotrimazole pessary 500 mg as a single dose, intravaginally Acute VVC in Pregnancy and breastfeeding: Clotrimazole pessary 500 mg intravaginally at night for up to 7 consecutive nights	Fluconazole refractory/ severe/ recurrent VVC Contact Microbiology or Infectious Diseases
Candida at urinary, respiratory & other sites	Treatment not routinely indicated. Contact Microbiology or Infectious Diseases	
Disseminated candidiasis	Contact Microbiology or Infectious Diseases	Choice of antifungal depends on sensitivities.
Fungal skin infection	Contact Microbiology or Infectious Diseases or Dermatology for advice	
Fungal nail infection	Contact Microbiology or Infectious Diseases or Dermatology for advice	
For all other suspected fungal infections e.g. aspergillosis contact Microbiology or Infectious Diseases	Contact Microbiology or Infectious Diseases for advice	

Refs:

1. IDSA Candidiasis Guidelines [Clin Infect Dis 2016;62:e1-e50](#)

British Association for Sexual Health and HIV (BASHH). British Association for Sexual Health and HIV national guideline for the management of vulvovaginal candidiasis (2019). BASHH, 2019.

3. HSE [Fungal Infections](#) . Antibioticprescribing.ie. November 2023