

Refucil

Oral Suspension (Griseofulvin 125mg/5ml)

PHARMACOLOGY

Griseofulvin arrests fungal activity by disrupting its mitotic spindle structure. It is selectively concentrated in the keratin and is more effective in skin in nail infections. It is well absorbed orally but ineffective when applied topically.

INDICATIONS:

Fungal infections of the skin, scalp, hair or nails. Griseofulvin is effective against the dermatophytes causing ringworm tinea, including *Microsporum canis*, *Trichophyton rubrum* and *T.verrosum* but not effective in infection caused by *candida albicans*.

CONTRA-INDICATIONS:

Porphyria, severe liver disease, SLE, pregnancy

PRECAUTION:

Long term administration (periodic assessment of hepatic, renal and hemopoietic functions should be performed): pregnancy (may harm the foetus); avoid exposure to intense sunlight; Penicillin sensitive patients (cross sensitivity is possible as penicillin derivative)

Interactions:

Avoid alcohol during therapy as tachycardia, diaphoresis, and flushing may occur.

Coumarin anticoagulants (decrease anticoagulants effect)

Oral contraceptives (decrease contraceptive effect, suggest alternative method of contraception).

Barbiturates (decrease griseofulvin blood levels due to decreased absorption or increase metabolism)

ADVERSE EFFECTS:

Headache, GI discomfort, rarely urticaria, erythematous rashes and SLE

ADVICE TO PATIENTS:

Take with fatty meal for better absorption; avoid exposure to sunlight: if patient get headache it usually goes away with continued therapy, may cause dizziness, drowsiness and impaired judgments; do not drive or perform other hazardous activities, effect of alcohol enhanced by the drug; do not take if pregnant; if you become pregnant; discontinue immediately.

DOSE:

Adult, 0.5g-1 daily preferable in divided dose after food but not less than 10mg/kg daily.

Child, usually 10mg/kg body weight daily in divide doses.

Duration of Treatment: This depends upon the thickness of keratin at the site of infection. For hair to skin at least 14 weeks treatment is required, whereas toe or finger nails may need 6-12 months treatment. Therapy should continue for at least 2 weeks after all signs of infection have disappeared.

STORAGE:

- You should keep your oral suspension below 25c
- Keep your oral suspension in the container it came in.
- If you have any oral suspension left when your treatment is finished, you should return it to your pharmacist or ask his/her advice on how to dispose it.
- Do not take your oral suspension after the expiry date on the container.
- Keep your oral suspension in a safe place where children cannot see or reach it. Your oral suspension could harm them.