

Date As Postmark

Message for patient

Your nail clippings have confirmed a fungal nail infection. Treatment is usually with a course of oral antifungal tablets (Terbinafine). Cure rate is between 60 – 80 percent and duration of treatment is for several months, up to six for toenail infection. Treatment can be stopped four weeks after the appearance of normal nail at the nail bed. Side effects of Terbinafine can include headache, itching, loss of sense of taste, diarrhoea, fatigue and rash. Fungal nail infections are generally not harmful in themselves and treatment is usually given because of unsightly appearance or discomfort, therefore you may choose not to treat this. Nail lacquer is also an option although the effectiveness of this treatment is limited, and may only be suitable for mild and limited cases. Duration of treatment is 6-12 months.

Oral Terbinafine can occasionally cause liver problems and we need to do a blood test (LFTs) prior to starting treatment and every 4-6 weeks during therapy. If you develop persistent nausea, decreased appetite, fatigue, vomiting, right upper abdominal pain, yellowing of the skin, dark urine or pale stools you should report this immediately and stop treatment. We will require the results of these tests prior to prescribing Terbinafine. If you wish to commence this treatment please ensure your blood tests are carried out and request a prescription. If you wish to discuss this further please make a telephone appointment with a doctor.

Yours sincerely

AVONDALE MEDICAL PRACTICE