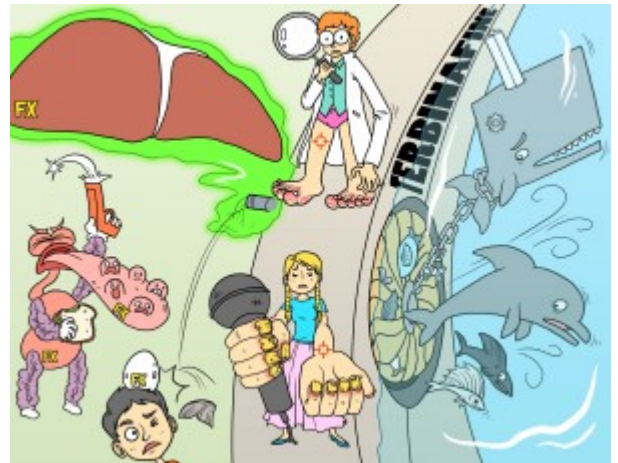


Terbinafine

Terbinafine is an antifungal medication which is indicated for use against dermatophytes (tinea cruris, pedis and corporis), as well as onychomycosis. It works by inhibiting the enzyme squalene epoxidase, leading to fungal cell lysis and death.



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Indications

Dermatophytosis

[Dermatologist-toes-itch](#)

Terbinafine is used against dermatophytes, or fungal infections which cause skin disease. This makes it particularly effective in treating tinea pedis (athlete's foot), tinea cruris (jock itch), and tinea corporis (ringworm).

Onychomycosis

[On-a-mic Nail Fungus](#)

This drug is also used for fungal nail infections, or onychomycosis, because other topical agents cannot penetrate nailbeds deeply. Terbinafine is given orally and acts systemically, so it can access infections underneath the nailbed.

Mechanism

Inhibits Squalene Epoxidase

[Inhibiting-chains on Square-whale Epoxy](#)

This medication inhibits squalene epoxidase, which is an enzyme responsible for ergosterol synthesis (a main component of fungal cell membranes). Thus, this drug changes fungal cell membrane permeability, leading to fungal cell lysis and death.

Side Effects

Hepatotoxicity

[Liver with Toxic-green-glow](#)

This medication can lead to increased liver enzymes, and sometimes hepatitis. Rarely, it can progress to liver damage and failure, which requires transplant.

GI Distress

[GI with Flare-gun](#)

This drug has a wide side effect profile in the gastrointestinal system. It can lead to GI distress, with varying symptoms of diarrhea, constipation, dyspepsia, indigestion, gastritis, cholestasis and nausea.

Taste Disturbances

Taste-buds Disturbed

Rarely, patients complain of a complete or partial loss of taste sensation, or ageusia. They can have distorted taste, and these symptoms may be permanent, long after treatment has ceased.

Headache

Head-egg lump

Headache is one of the most common complaints from this medication.