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A Comprehensive Review on Role of Azole Antifungal Agents in Disease Conditions Caused by Malassezia Yeast



Riya Mathur^{1*}, Padmani Shukla²

1. M. Pharm Research Scholar, Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Advance Institute of Biotech and Paramedical Sciences, Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh. India.

2. Associate Professor, Department of
Pharmacognosy, Pharmacy Department, Uttar
Pradesh University of Medical Sciences, Saifai,
Etawah, Uttar Pradesh. India.

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ABSTRACT

Malassezia is lipid structured basidiomycetous yeasts that inhabit the pores and skin and mucosa of human beings and different warm-blooded animals, and are a chief thing of the pores and skin microbiome. They arise as pores and skin commensals, however also are related to diverse pores and skin problems, and bloodstream infections. The genus presently contains 17 species and has currently been assigned its very own class, Malasseziomycetes. Seborrheic Eczema is a continuous spectrum of malassezia which affects skin and cavities. In this review, summarize the current knowledge including chemistry, pathophysiology, diagnosis, and treatment especially with azole antifungal agents. Azole antifungal agents are currently used in various fungal infections mainly as topical preparation such as cream, ointment, shampoo, gel, etc. most clinically useful drugs are ketoconazole, miconazole, metronidazole, itraconazole, bifonazole. Most imidazole derivatives are suitable for topically used because of their poor absorption and tolerable systemically (Clotrimazole, oxiconazole, econazole, isoconazole, bifonazole, etc.) Miconazole can be given systemically or locally, ketoconazole orally active because of better absorption Fluconazole and itraconazole are newer orally effective triazole derivatives. Imidazole derivatives act as fungistatic (stop fungal growth) or fungicidal (destroy the fungus), they act by inhibiting sterol (ergosterol) synthesis, as it is an integral part of the cytoplasmic cell membrane of fungi.

INTRODUCTION:

Malassezia (formerly called Pityrosporum) may be a genus of fungi. Malassezia is of course found on the skin surfaces of many animals, together with humans¹. In occasional expedient infections, some species will cause the physiological condition or physiological state on the trunk and different locations in humans. Hypersensitivity reaction tests for this plant life are available.²

PITYROSPORUM OVALE



Figure No. 1:- Malassezia Yeast

Seborrheic Eczema

It is a chronic, long-lasting, dermatologic inflammatory state they are affected have high lipid-consuming body areas like the scalp. An inflammatory reaction **to excess Malassezia yeast**, an organism that normally lives on the skin's surface, is the likely cause of seborrheic eczema³⁻⁴.



Figure No. 2:- Eczema Caused on the skin by Malassezia yeast

Seborrheic Eczema prevalence in humans is approximately 1- 3 % in normal citizens and immune-deficient humans approximately have 34 -83%. (1,2,3) that highly effect on the winter

they influence by UV light that elaborate that enhance clinical appearance by exposing on sunlight have some corroboration. (4,5,6) Their diagnosis of Eczema is based on which part of the body is affected is white and yellow greasy material on the surface of the scalp there teenage and younger. Eczema is oily and peeling off the surface of the scalp and skin redness there is a correct diagnosis through the distribution of lesions and affected areas of their body. (7) Mainly used treatment of SE based on the quantity of grain(peeling) and how much affect the infection area and using therapeutic effect. (8) These fungi utilize oil on the skin exterior to create unsaturated or saturated fats and affect the surface of the skin and create inflammation effect. Their sebaceous gland secretes oily and waxy matter induce the cultivation of *P. ovale* these produces Eczema there using antifungal medication. (9)



Figure No. 3:- Eczema Caused on Face by Oily Paradox of Malassezia

Pathophysiology of Malassezia Yeasts infections

In Malassezia folliculitis, the yeasts invade the pilo-sebaceous unit leading to a dilatation of the follicles with a large number of Malassezia cells. If the follicular walls rupture this results in a mixed inflammatory infiltrate and clinical inflammation. Regarding the impact of Malassezia in AD and D/SD, Malassezia induces disease of the skin through two—not reciprocally exclusive however doubtless interacting—induction mechanisms, namely, allergic and infliction pathways. In AD, a sensitization state against Malassezia antigens looks to be nearly universal. Associate in Nursing array of well-characterized allergens with Ig (IgE) binding ability has been delineated in AD patient disease exacerbations (as well as in patients with cholinergic urticaria), principally of *M. furfur* and *M. sympodialis*, and a lot of recently from M. globosa.¹⁰

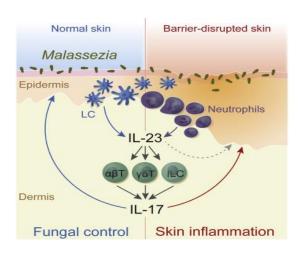


Figure No. 4: The Skin Commensal yeast Malassezia triggers type 17 response

Role of Azole in the Treatment of Infections caused by Malassezia:

Most antifungal drugs have azole derivatives are the biggest class of antifungal drugs used for the treatment of seborrheic dermatitis and dandruff. These are used both orally and topically. These are divided into two categories on a structural basis, first one is Imidazoles (clotrimazole, miconazole, ketoconazole) there have 2 nitrogen group and five membrane ring, the second one are triazole (fluconazole, voriconazole, itraconazole) there have three nitrogen's with five membrane ring. (11) Azoles inhibit the growth of a wide range of fungus by inhibiting the cytochrome P450 depending on enzyme lanosterol 14 alpha demethylase that is responsible for conversion of lanosterol to ergosterol that inhibits the important item of the cell. (11,12)

Table No. 1: Classification of Azoles

Class	Antifungal Agent	Formulations Available	Mode of Application	Mechanism of Action
Azoles	Ketoconazole	2% Shampoo, 2% Cream	Shampoo: 1-3 times per week for 4-8 weeks. Cream: Twice a day	Inhibition of fungal lanosterol 14- demethylase enzyme resulting in depletion of ergosterol and accumulation of toxic sterols in the fungal cell membrane.
	Fluconazole	2% Shampoo, 0.5% Gel	Shampoo: 2-3 times per week for 4 weeks Gel: 1-2 times daily	
	Clotrimazole Sertaconazole	1% Cream, Lotion 2% Cream, Lotion	Twice daily Twice daily	
	Miconazole Oxiconazole	2% Cream, Gel 1% Cream, Lotion	Twice daily Once-daily	
	Bifonazole	1% Cream, Shampoo	Once-daily	
	Flutrimazole	1% Shampoo, 1% Gel	Shampoo: 1-2 times per week for 4 weeks Gel: Once daily	
	Climbazole	1% lotion, 0.5% Shampoo	Lotion: Overnight applicationShampoo:2times per week for 4 weeks	

Ketoconazole: Ketoconazole is an imidazole subordinate initially endorsed by the FDA in 1981. It is accessible in 1% and 2% cleanser and cream formulations. In 2007, ketoconazole froth, 2%, was endorsed in the United States for the topical treatment of eczema when utilized twice day by day for about a month in patients 12 years and older. Here are reports of better viability of 2% plans when contrasted with the ones with 1% ketoconazole. Absorption of ketoconazole through the skin is immaterial, with no ketoconazole identified in plasma after topical utilization of ketoconazole cream or shampooing. Around 5% of the medication is found to enter into the hair keratin 12 hours after a solitary cleanser. It is named a pregnancy classification C drug. Various investigations led on ketoconazole have utilized

it in fluctuating dosages. The most successive portion was 2% twice day by day consistently over face and 2% two times every week over the scalp.¹⁶

Fluconazole: Fluconazole, an individual from the triazole antifungal family, was endorsed by the FDA for oral use in the mid-1990s. After oral organization, fluconazole amasses in eccrine perspiration and diffuses quickly and widely in the layer corneum. Its focus in the skin is higher than in the serum. The drawn-out skin maintenance of fluconazole (7 days after halting treatment) has been credited to its high liking to layer corneum because of communication among fluconazole and keratin. However skin dispersion after the topical organization has not been concentrated widely. Even though facial SD has been accounted for to react to fluconazole 2% cleanser in a study, there is an absence of studies in the writing examining the utilization of topical fluconazole in Eczema.

Clotrimazole: Clotrimazole is a wide range antifungal operator of the imidazole family. Topical clotrimazole is named a pregnancy classification B sedate. When all is said in done, it is very much endured by most patients. Incidentally, patients may encounter bothering with a consuming sensation at the site of utilization. Unfavorably susceptible contact dermatitis with erythema, edema, urticaria, and pruritus has been accounted for rarely. However there is a lack of studies in the writing on utilization of this medication in Eczema.

Sertaconazole: Sertaconazole is additionally an expansive range antifungal operator of the imidazole family. It is accessible in cream, salve, and cleanser details. Topical sertaconazole is named a pregnancy class C drug.¹⁹ It is likewise all around endured when applied topically with infrequent nearby site aggravation/consuming sensation. The special benzothiophene ring in the synthetic structure offers higher lipophilicity and more prominent maintenance of medication in the layer corneum) for as long as 48 hours, prompts more prominent mycological fix rates and lesser possibility of relapse.²⁰ Treatment with sertaconazole likewise brings about the enlistment of cyclooxygenase-2 (COX-2) and the ensuing arrival of prostaglandin E2 (PGE2), in this manner giving calming restorative benefits.²¹ It is generally all-around endured, anyway infrequently barely any reactions like pruritus, contact dermatitis, consuming sensation, application site erythema has been noted.¹⁹

An examination was embraced to think about the adequacy of sertaconazole 2% cream versus clotrimazole 1% cream for the treatment of SD of the face. One hundred twenty-eight patients were encouraged to utilize these creams twice day by day for about a month. The deliberate result quiet fulfillment rates were higher in the sertaconazole group.²² Another

examination demonstrated that topical sertaconazole is similarly powerful at clearing Eczema as tacrolimus 0.03% topical preparation.²³ An investigation directed by Lotti *et al.*²⁴ in 132 patients of SD, the gathering of patients getting sertaconazole 2% cream indicated improvement practically identical with the gathering accepting ketoconazole 2% cream.²⁴

Miconazole: Miconazole is accessible in 2% cream, 2% gel, and cleanser definitions. It is a pregnancy class B medication. It has a great entrance into the layer corneum following topical application to the skin.10 A randomized, twofold visually impaired, relative, equal gathering, a multicenter study directed in Switzerland indicated that miconazole cleanser, when utilized two times per week is at any rate as viable and protected as ketoconazole cleanser in treating scalp Eczema.²⁵

Another randomized, twofold visually impaired, relative, equal gathering, multicenter study was done on 274 patients (145 miconazole, 129 ketoconazole). Treatment was twice-week by week for about a month. Evaluations included side effects of erythema, tingling, scaling ['Symptom Scale of Seborrhoeic Dermatitis' (SSSD)], infection seriousness, and worldwide change [Clinical Global Impressions (CGIs) and Patient Global Impressions (PGIs)]. They reasoned that miconazole is at any rate as compelling and sheltered as ketoconazole in treating scalp Eczema.²⁵

Bifonazole: Bifonazole is a subbed imidazole antifungal specialist which has an expansive range of movement *in vitro* against dermatophytes, molds, yeasts, dimorphic parasites, and some Gram-positive microbes. It is accessible in 1% cream and cleanser arrangements. Contrasted and most topical antifungal medications, which should be applied in any event twice day by day, bifonazole offers the accommodation of once day by day organization, which may improve tolerant compliance.²⁶

In a randomized report led by Zienicke *et al.*^{27,} 100 patients were enlisted and treated with either bifonazole 1% cream or the relating vehicle once day by day for about a month. All patients were likewise assessed following a month and a half of development. Clinical assessment depended on the accompanying parameters: erythema, papules, invasion, scaling, tingle. What's more, the mycological assessment was performed utilizing satisfactory contact plates for quantitative assurance of Malassezia furfur. There was a measurably noteworthy improvement in every one of these parameters in the patient gathering that applied bifonazole.²⁷ In another examination directed more than twenty-five patients with Eczema confined to the face, bifonazole cream was applied once a day by day and 21 (84%) patients

were liberated from sores toward the finish of about a month. It has likewise been accounted for to have a calming action.²⁸

Flutrimazole: Flutrimazole is another imidazole antifungal specialist whose antifungal action against Malassezia furfur spp in guinea pigs *in vivo* has been demonstrated to be better than sertaconazole, however lower than ketoconazole and bifonazole.²⁹ In an investigation directed by Noguera *et al.*³⁰ it was reasoned that flutrimazole gel 1% has comparative adequacy to ketoconazole gel at a portion of three applications for every week for 28 days.

Climbazole: Pople *et al.*³¹ observed that climbazole application to the scalp results in an upregulation in the expression of several genes including those encoding proteins involved in cornified envelope formation and further studies demonstrated that this does translate into increased protein expression. This climbazole-driven increase in cornified envelope proteins may improve the scalp skin barrier, which is known to be weaker in Eczema. These studies suggest climbazole, besides its antifungal activity, is delivering positive skin benefits helping to relieve dandruff symptoms effectively.³¹A double-blind, comparative, prospective, longitudinal study was conducted on 60 patients of scalp SD for six weeks. Patients were assigned randomly to one of two treatment groups- 1% ketoconazole shampoo and 1% climbazole shampoo for once-daily application. After six weeks, it was found that both drugs were effective in treating symptoms such as itching, peeling, dry or oily skin, but 1% ketoconazole shampoo showed superior efficacy, with a statistically significant difference in all symptoms. Eighty percent of patients in the ketoconazole group and 13 percent of the climbazole group were observed to achieve clinical cure at end of treatment (p = 0.0001).³²

Pharmacology of Azoles:

Regardless of contrasts in the organization of the cell membrane and the nearness of the cell wall, parasites are metabolically like mammalian cells and offer barely any pathogen-explicit targets. Foundational antifungal specialists can be commonly assembled based on their site of activity in pathogenic organisms. Azole antifungal operators apply their antifungal impacts by focusing on ergosterol—the foremost cell film sterol of numerous pathogenic organisms. By restraining 14 α -demethylase (lanosterol demethylase), a contagious cytochrome P450 (CYP)— subordinate catalyst, azole antifungal specialists drain cell layer ergosterol, disable film ease, and lead to the gathering of harmful 14 α -methylated sterols, bringing about development capture and inevitable parasitic cell death.³³ However, this hindrance isn't completely particular to growths; to be sure, insurance restraint of human CYP compounds

by azoles is frequently liable for pharmacokinetic tranquilize sedate connections. The parasitic objective for azole restricting is a heme-containing pocket on the 14α-demethylase enzyme.³⁴ Differences in the compliance of the 14α -demethylase restricting pocket and azole structure to a great extent characterize the coupling fondness of each medication, and in some contagious species, the potential for cross-opposition among triazoles.³⁴ For particles got from ketoconazole (i.e., itraconazole, posaconazole), augmentation of the nonpolar side chains improves azole official to the 14α -demethylase apoprotein, bringing about an upgraded range of movement against molds.³⁵ Voriconazole, a subsidiary of fluconazole, has a α-o-methyl bunch that gives action against Aspergillus species and different filamentous fungi. 35,36 Resistance to triazole antifungal specialists is most regularly the after effect of transformations in the azole restricting pocket of 14α -demethylase^{35,36} and additionally the overexpression of MDR1 efflux siphons that remove fluconazole or the multidrug adenosine triphosphate-subordinate efflux siphons CDR1 and CDR2, which oust all triazoles, in this way prompting cross-resistance. Because inherent obstruction in C krusei is a consequence of impeded authority of fluconazole to 14α-demethylase, more up to date triazoles with the improved official to the protein hold action against fluconazole-safe strains, for example, C krusei.37 However, fluconazole obstruction in C glabrata is as often as possible an after effect of the outflow of multidrug efflux siphons; thus, cross-opposition might be seen with all azole antifungal agents.³⁸

Pharmacokinetics:

Antifungal pharmacokinetic properties are regularly the most significant thought in medicate determination because disabled GI tract work or decreased renal/hepatic medication freedom can significantly impact the wellbeing and viability of antifungal treatment.

A few classes of antifungal specialists must be regulated intravenously, including amphotericin B and the echinocandins, because these operators are not adequately consumed from the GI tract. This issue has been settled with the presentation of triazole antifungal specialists; be that as it may, the level of retention fluctuates significantly starting with one medication then onto the next. Fluconazole and voriconazole both have oral bioavailability surpassing 90% and can be controlled regardless of food (fluconazole) or ideally on a vacant stomach (voriconazole).³⁹ Itraconazole cases and posaconazole suspension expect food to draw out gastric habitation time to improve medicate disintegration, which isn't an issue with the oral cyclodextrin plan of itraconazole that is managed on an unfilled stomach. Be that as

it may, patients may like to take itraconazole arrangement with food because of GI prejudice and the unpalatable lingering flavor of the solution.⁴⁰

Medication cooperations are another significant reason for pharmacokinetic fluctuation since coadministration of any triazole or caspofungin with intense inducers of stage 1 (CYP) and stage 2 digestion (i.e, rifampin, phenytoin) can bring about low (fluconazole, caspofungin, posaconazole) or imperceptible (itraconazole, voriconazole) circulatory system convergences of the antifungal operator and an expanded danger of treatment failure.⁴¹ For the situation of itraconazole, voriconazole, and posaconazole, communications with powerful inducers of CYP3A4 can't generally be overwhelmed with higher antifungal medication doses.⁴²⁻⁴⁵

Pharmacokinetic sedate medication connections are additionally intensified by the way that some antifungal operators repress the freedom or digestion of different medications. Nephrotoxicity related to amphotericin B treatment (frequently quickened by calcineurin inhibitors, aminoglycosides, intravenous radiocontrast specialists, foscarnet, or forceful diuresis) will decrease the leeway of other really wiped out drugs. Harmacokinetic tranquilize sedate collaborations are generally hazardous, notwithstanding, with triazole antifungal operators since these operators restrain human CYP chemicals to differing degrees (Table 2). These communications can be perilous if not foreseen in patients accepting medications with a tight remedial list, for example, chemotherapeutic specialists, immunosuppressants, and some cardiovascular prescriptions. 49,50

Pharmacodynamics:

Antifungal specialists show various examples of movement *in vivo* (i.e., focus autonomous or fixation needy as dictated by the state of the portion reaction bend at clinically accomplished concentrations).⁵¹ These examples of action *in vivo* can regularly be connected with the medication portion and the pathogen MIC to recognize dosing methodologies that expand antifungal viability while decreasing the danger of harmfulness. Pharmacodynamic information may likewise help anticipate destinations of contamination where antifungal medications have a higher danger of treatment disappointment (i.e., cerebrospinal liquid, vitreous liquid, pee) because insufficient conveyance prompts incapable medication fixations.

Flucytosine shows focus autonomous pharmacodynamic qualities *in vitro* and *in vivo* against Candida and Cryptococcus species; i.e, increments in serum sedate fixations over the pathogen MIC don't considerably expand the rate or degree of parasitic killing.⁵² In portion

fractionation concentrates in creatures, the capacity of a dose routine to keep up serum tranquilize fixations over the MIC (percent of time more noteworthy than MIC of 20%-40%) was the best indicator of 5-FC movement against *Candida albicans*.⁵² This acknowledgment drove to a limited extent to contemplates that pre-owned lower dosages of 5-FC (100 mg/kg day by day) in the mix with higher amphotericin B treatment portions for *Cryptococcal meningitis*, even though pharmacodynamic information for 5-FC in the treatment of *Cryptococcus neoformans* is limited.⁵³

Triazole antifungal specialists have maybe the biggest collection of trial and clinical writing setting up a connection between medication portion, creature MIC, and outcome.⁵⁴ Experimental examinations in creatures and clinical investigations with fluconazole in the treatment of mucosal and intrusive candidiasis recommend that accomplishing a serum free-sedate AUC:MIC proportion of more noteworthy than 25 is the parameter most firmly connected to fruitful treatment.⁵⁴⁻⁵⁶ Although less information is accessible for different triazoles and shape diseases, concentrates in creature models of aspergillosis likewise propose that the AUC: MIC proportion is the best indicator of treatment reaction to posaconazole, with half endurance at absolute medication AUC: MIC proportions of 100 to 150 and maximal reactions at a proportion more prominent than 440 (free-tranquilize AUC: MIC proportion of roughly 8-25).^{57,58}

Clinical preliminary information for candidal diseases has recommended that this pharmacokinetic-pharmacodynamic relationship might be useful for foreseeing treatment viability in humans^{55,59-61} and has shaped the reason for weakness testing breakpoints in Candida species. For instance, confines with fluconazole MICs of 16 or more prominent would be hard to treat with a standard measurement of 6 mg/kg day by day (i.e, 400 mg portion with an AUC of 400 µg/h per liter) because the AUC: MIC falls beneath 25 at this MIC with the standard dose. Consequently, separates with fluconazole MICs of 16 to 32 µg/mL are classified as "defenseless portion subordinate" rather than "middle of the road" since they may, in any case, be treatable given higher day by day measurements of fluconazole are utilized (i.e, 12 mg/kg day by day or roughly 800 mg/d). *Candida disengages* with MICs more noteworthy than 64 µg/mL would require fluconazole measurements of 1600 mg/d or more prominent and consequently are named "resistant." Recent examinations utilizing epidemiological cut-off investigation of wild-type powerless and fluconazole-safe Candida species, be that as it may, have incited reevaluation of these pharmacodynamics-driven breakpoints because they may not be adequately delicate to identify rising obstruction,

particularly among non–C glabrata isolates.⁶² Therefore, new species-explicit MIC breakpoints for fluconazole have been proposed for *C albicans*, *C parapsilosis*, and *Candida tropicalis* (helpless, $\leq 2 \mu \text{g/mL}$; vulnerable portion needy, $4 \mu \text{g/mL}$; safe, $\geq 8 \mu \text{g/mL}$) while keeping up current breakpoints for C glabrata (defenseless portion subordinate, $\leq 32 \mu \text{g/mL}$; safe $\leq 64 \mu \text{g/mL}$).

Chemistry of Azoles:

Azoles are a class of five-membered heterocyclic mixes containing a nitrogen molecule and in any event one other non-carbon iota (for example nitrogen, sulfur, or oxygen) as a major aspect of the ring.⁶³ Their names start from the Hantzsch–Widman classification. The parent mixes are fragrant and have two twofold bonds; there are progressively decreased analogs (azolines and azolidines) with less. One, and just one, solitary pair of electrons from each heteroatom in the ring is a piece of the sweet-smelling holding in an azole. Names of azoles keep up the prefix upon decrease (e.g., pyrazoline, pyrazolidine). The numbering of ring particles in azoles begins with the heteroatom that isn't a piece of a twofold bond and afterward continues towards the other heteroatom.

Imidazole and other five-membered fragrant heterocyclic frameworks with two nitrogens are very regular in nature and structure the center of numerous biomolecules, for example, histidine.

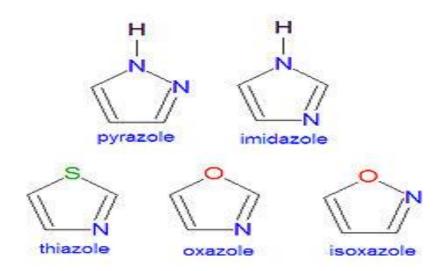
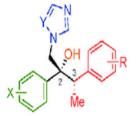


Figure No. 5: Heterocyclic ring of Azoles

SAR OF AZOLES:

azole ring

- triazole is more stable and more selective than imidazole
- N4 of triazole coordinates to the heme iron atom

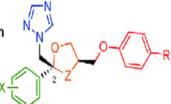


oxygenated C2

- C2 OH group part of a hydrogen bond network with Y140 and the heme ring D propionate in S. cerevisiae
- · but loss of interaction in Y140F/H mutant
- · cyclic ether not sensitive to mutation

halogenated phenyl ring

 buried deep inside substratebinding cavity (narrow cleft that can only accept F or Cl substitutions)



side chain

- C3 methyl group shows strong hydrophobic interactions with aromatic amino acids
- long apolar side chains interact more strongly inside hydrophobic access channel via van der Waals contacts and lead to higher potency
- The essential basic necessity for individuals from the azole class is a pitifully fundamental imidazole or 1,2,4-triazole ring fortified by a nitrogen-carbon linkage to the remainder of the structure.
- At the sub-atomic level, the amidine nitrogen atom (N-3 in the imidazole, N-4 in the triazoles) is accepted to spot the heme iron of protein security cytochrome P450 to inhibit enactment of sub-atomic oxygen and forestall oxidation of steroidal substrates by the compound.
- The most powerful antifungal azoles have a few sweet-smelling rings, in any event, one of which is halogen subbed (e.g.,2,4-chlorophenyl, 4-chlorophenyl, 2,4-diflurophenyl), and other nonpolar practical gatherings.
- Just 2,&/or 2,4 replacement yields successful azole mixes.
- The halogen particle that yields the most intense mixes is fluorine, albeit useful gathering, for example, sulfonic acids have been appeared to do likewise.
- Replacement at different places of the ring yields latent mixes.
- Presumably, the enormous nonpolar segment of these atoms impersonates the nonpolar steroidal piece of the substrate for lanosterol 14-demethylase, lanosterol, in shape and size.
- The nonpolar usefulness presents high lipophilicity to the antifungal azoles.

- The free bases are ordinarily insoluble in the water yet are dissolvable in most natural solvents, such as ethanol.
- Fluconazole, which has two polar triazole moieties, is a special case, in that it is adequate water dissolvable to be infused intravenously as an answer of the free base.⁶⁴

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