Onychomycosis is a common fungal infection of the nail unit that can cause brittleness and discolored nails and can negatively impact patient self-image.1

– Given that complete healthy nail regrowth can take up to 18 months, patients may choose to mask infected, discolored nails with polish.2

– Until recently, the only US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved topical treatment for onychomycosis was ciclopirox nail lacquer, 8%.3

– Discoloration became progressively worse over 7 days of treatment and was further evidenced by polish color transfer from nails to the watercolor paper and in the residual solution at the end of the study.

– Dropper applicators of efinaconazole topical solution, 10% resulted in substantial polish transfer from the polish applicator to nails.

– The study included a sample of 12 ex vivo, non-diseased human fingernails from 4 human cadaver donors.

– The objectives of this study were to evaluate:

  – Appearance of nail polish after daily dosing with the specific applicators used for tavaborole topical solution, 5% (dropper applicator) and efinaconazole topical solution, 10% (brush applicator).

  – The appearance of each of the two applicators after daily dosing of tavaborole topical solution, 5% or efinaconazole topical solution, 10% on polished nails.

  – The presence of any color transfer from the respective applicators after dosing polished nails.

Methods

– The study included a sample of 12 ex vivo, non-diseased human fingernails from 4 human cadaver donors.

– Overall, nails were similar at baseline with regard to characteristics of nail length (range: 10.02–12.06 mm), nail width (range: 9.95–14.39 mm), and nail thickness (range: 0.31–0.85 mm).

– Nails were randomly assigned to treatment with tavaborole topical solution, 5% applied with a dropper applicator or efinaconazole topical solution, 10% applied with brush once daily for 7 days, as per their respective patient instructions.

– Dropper and brush applicators used to apply medications were applied to white watercolor paper immediately after dosing nails to evaluate the presence of color transfer from the polish.

– Nails, applicators, and watercolor papers were photographed daily following application to document qualitative appearance.

Results

– There was no evidence of color transfer from tavaborole topical solution, 5% to ex vivo polished nails during the 7-day treatment period.

– No color transfer from the polished nails was observed on the watercolor paper or in the residual solution at the end of the study.

– The package inserts for these products state that the impact of nail polish or other cosmetic nail products on the efficacy of the product has not been evaluated.

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