

PREREQUISITES FOR ANALYSIS OF THE ANTIFUNGAL DRUG MARKET

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Fungal diseases, also known as mycoses, although recognised in the late 1980s, are gaining more attention today than ever before due to the growing population of high-risk elderly, immunosuppressed individuals, transplant recipients and preterm infants.

Average life expectancy has increased dramatically due to modern scientific knowledge and advances in medical treatments, which is increasing the number of people over 65. The U.S. Census reports 39.6 million people aged 65 and older, which is expected to double by 2050 to 21% of the population. The elderly and those with a suppressed immune status may experience a significant increase in the prevalence of fungal infections due to environmental factors as well as internal degenerative immune and metabolic changes.

In the second half of the twentieth century, there was a marked increase in the incidence of mycoses of the head, trunk, hands and feet.

Fungal diseases of the skin are the most common and socially significant diseases of the skin and its appendages. The introduction of the latest pharmaceuticals does not significantly stop the growth of morbidity and the prevalence of fungal lesions of the skin, hair and nails. The problem is extremely important and, according to current data, is observed in 20-25% of the world's population. In Ukraine, the incidence has increased 2.3 times over the past decade.

Mycosis is caused by pathogenic fungi that parasitise the mucous membranes and skin of humans.

Mycosis is common on the skin, and occasionally the fungus can affect the internal organs. Treatment is prescribed only by a dermatologist after an examination, as the disease may be similar to other dermatological pathologies.

In Ukraine, the range of antifungal drugs is quite wide. Every year, this segment is updated by bringing new products to the market, which makes it dynamic. Therefore, when developing a medicinal product, the first priority is to conduct market research to identify a free niche to fill it.

Given the breadth of the segment occupied by these drugs in some pharmacological groups, there is an uneven distribution.

During the study, the range of these medicines, their international generic name, dosage form and quantity were determined based on the data from the State Register of Medicines of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine (as of 2023), literature sources of electronic and printed publications on the issues of modern pharmacotherapy of fungal skin lesions. The results are systematised and summarised using analytical, comparative, logical and systematic methods of research and analysis of scientific publications of scientists from different countries, presentation of the views and conceptual position of the authors of the analysed sources.