Background: Two oral antifungal agents, griseofulvin and terbinafine, have regulatory approval but it is unknown whether one has superior overall efficacy. Genus-specific differences in efficacy are believed to exist for the two agents. It is not clear at what doses and durations of treatment these differences apply.

Purpose: The purposes of this meta-analysis were to determine whether a statistically significant difference in efficacy exists between these agents at a given dose and duration of each in tinea capitis infections overall and to determine whether a genus-specific difference in efficacy exists for these two treatments at a given dose and duration of each. We performed a literature search for clinically and methodologically similar randomized controlled trials comparing 8 weeks of griseofulvin (6.25–12.5 mg/kg/day) to 4 weeks of terbinafine (3.125–6.25 mg/kg/day) in the treatment of tinea capitis. A meta-analysis was performed using the Mantel–Haenszel method and random effects model; results were expressed as odds ratios with 95%.

Results: Meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials did not show a significant difference in the overall efficacy of the two drugs at the doses specified, but specific efficacy differences were observed based on the infectious species. For tinea capitis caused by Microsporum spp., griseofulvin is superior (p=0.04), whereas terbinafine is superior for Trichophyton spp. infection (p=0.04).

Conclusion: Our results support species-specific differences in treatment efficacy between griseofulvin and terbinafine and provide a clinical context in which this knowledge may be applied.

Biography
Nawal Hatem Herzallah has completed her Medical Degree from Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Dublin. She is currently a Medical Intern at King Fahd Hospital of the University in Khobar, Saudi Arabia.

Griseofulvin vs. terbinafine in the treatment of tinea capitis
Nawal Hatem Herzallah1, Humoud Mansour AlKhalaf1, Adnan Meteb Mohamed Almezani2, Youssef Mohammad Almodhaibri3, Mustafa Mohamed Ali Almusallami4, Jumanh Khalid Attiah5, Abdulaziz Mohammed Alsalhi6, Maha Fahad Alluqmani7, Fatimah Mohammed Saeedi5, Ali Hassan Jaber Alzahrani7, Ibrahim Abdullah Al Taha8, Somaya Khalid Alsharif9 and Fatema Hassan A ALAjwad10
1Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Ireland
2Hail university, Saudi Arabia
3Qassim University, Saudi Arabia
4Hera General Hospital, Saudi Arabia
5Ibn Sina National College, Saudi Arabia
6King Abdulaziz University, Saudi Arabia
7King Abdulaziz University, Rabigh, Saudi Arabia
8Oyun City Hospital, Saudi Arabia
9Umm Al-Qura University, Saudi Arabia
10Imam Abdulrahman Bin Faisal University, Saudi Arabia