Treating Fungal Infections with New Forazoline Compounds

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Technology description

Fungal infections range in severity from common athlete’ s foot to life-threatening illness. Treatment can be very expensive. The cost of treating systemicCandidayeast infections exceeds $31,000 per patient in the United States. This fungus is responsible for afflictions like diaper rash, vaginal yeast infection and oral thrush.

Finding new agents to fightCandidaand other fungal infections could be globally beneficial and profitable. UW–Madison researchers have developed antifungal compounds isolated fromActinomadura, a bacterium found in a species of sea squirt. After extensive chemical isolation and characterization, the researchers identified a new class of compounds called ‘Forazolines’ that possess antifungal activity. Forazoline A was shown to be effective againstCandida albicansin a mouse model.

The Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation (WARF) is seeking commercial partners interested in developing compounds isolated from a sea squirt bacterium that could be effective againstCandidaand other fungi.

Additional Information

WARF reference number P06201US describes beta-peptides for treating yeast infections caused byC. albicans.

http://www.warf.org/technologies/summary/P06201US.cmsx

Application area

Developing new antifungal agents (cream, nasal spray, syrup, etc.) againstCandidayeast and potentially other strains

Advantages

Proven effective

Forazoline is a natural product.

Could be safely and flexibly administered to patients

Institution

Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation

Inventors

Thomas Wyche
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David Andes
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