



Treating Fungal Infections with New Forazoline Compounds

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WARF: P130274US02

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

Overview

Fungal infections range in severity from common athlete's foot to life-threatening illness. Treatment can be very expensive. The cost of treating systemic *Candida* yeast 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 fight *Candida* and other fungal infections could be globally beneficial and profitable.

The Invention

UW–Madison researchers have developed antifungal compounds isolated from *Actinomadura*, 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 against *Candida albicans* in a mouse model.

Applications

- Developing new antifungal agents (cream, nasal spray, syrup, etc.) against *Candida* yeast and potentially other strains

Key Benefits

- Proven effective
- Forazoline is a natural product.
- Could be safely and flexibly administered to patients

Stage of Development

In a mouse model of *C. albicans* infection, Forazoline A was shown to reduce kidney fungal load by a log after eight hours of treatment. No toxic effects were observed at the concentrations used.

Additional Information

For More Information About the Inventors

- [Timothy Bugni](#)
- [David Andes](#)

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Related Technologies

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- [WARF reference number P06201US describes beta-peptides for treating yeast infections caused by *C. albicans*.](#)

Tech Fields

- [Therapeutics & Vaccines : Anti-infectives \(antibacterials, antifungals, antivirals\)](#)

For current licensing status, please contact Rafael Diaz at rdiaz@warf.org or 608-960-9847

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