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Nail Fungus – Photodynamic therapy

Onychomycosis is estimated to affect up to 1.6 million Australians. Current available treatments include topical antifungal nail lacquers that are applied daily/weekly and oral medications.

The frustration of months of topical application and long term oral medication can lead to non-compliance and failed therapy.

Oral medications can also produce adverse effects, limiting suitability.

Photodynamic Therapy offers treatment not requiring medication or active patient involvement.

Photodynamic therapy has now been developed and adapted for the successful treatment of fungal nails without damaging side effects.

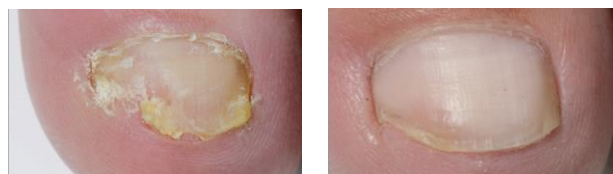
How Does it Work?

Micro organisms including bacteria, viruses and fungi all possess a cell wall, whereas typical human cells have a cell membrane. Photodynamic therapy (PDT) involves the use of photochemical reactions mediated through the interaction of photosensitising agents, light, and oxygen.

Following application of gel photosensitising agent, the pathological site is exposed to a specific wavelength of light (630nm). This mediates cellular toxicity/damage inducing fungal cell death without affecting surrounding tissue. The nail is restored with growth



Application of PDT with example of nail at initial treatment and at 11 weeks





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