



Texas Children's Hospital
Dermatology Service
PCP Referral Guidelines- Tinea Capitis

Diagnosis: **TINEA CAPITIS**

TREATMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Please obtain a fungal culture of the scalp prior to initiating therapy
 - Same culturette used for bacterial culture
 - Takes ~ 4 weeks for results
 - Culture results can help guide therapy
- Start empiric therapy if exam is highly clinically suspicious for tinea capitis
 - a. Griseofulvin microsize 20-25 mg/kg/day for 2 months
 - Appropriate to use down to 3 months of age, but consider 6 week course
 - Please note, Griseofulvin ultramicrosize dosing is 10-15 mg/kg/day; however Medicaid does not cover this formulation
 - Taking with fatty foods can increase absorption
 - OR
 - b. Terbinafine 250 mg tablets for 6-8 week course
 - >40 kg: 250 mg tablets daily
 - 20-40 kg: 125 mg daily (1/2 tablet)
 - <20 kg: 67.5 mg daily (1/4 tablet)
- Consider addition of ketoconazole 2% shampoo 2-3 times weekly (let sit 5 minutes prior to rinsing)
- Avoid sharing hats/brushes/combs/pillows to prevent spread and re-infection.
- Testing of liver functions unnecessary in otherwise healthy children

REFERRAL RECOMMENDATIONS: Please do not refer patients for whom fungal culture has not been obtained and 2 month course empiric systemic antifungal course at appropriate dose has been tried.