Robert E. Kalb, M.D.

Phone: (716) 630-1102 Fax: (716) 633-6507 325 Essjay Road ■ Williamsville, New York 14221

## LAMISIL (TERBINAFINE)

Lamisil is an antibiotic, which is taken internally for the treatment of fungal infections of the skin. It is safe and effective. Lamisil is taken in a dosage of one tablet per day. It is best to take the tablet at the same time each day so that you get into the habit of taking it regularly. It does not matter whether you have a full or empty stomach as these pills are absorbed well under all circumstances. Fortunately they do not usually cause any stomach upset or nausea as other types of antibiotics can produce.

Lamisil tablets are remarkably safe even when taken for prolonged periods. When Lamisil is used for skin infections it is often taken for two weeks. In the case of fungal nail infections, it may be necessary to take this medicine for six weeks or longer depending on the areas that are involved.

Occasionally people taking Lamisil have developed an allergic type of rash. This is very unusual. If it would develop, please stop the medication immediately and call my office. As with any medication, Lamisil can produce headache, diarrhea, stomach upset or hives. These are quite uncommon with Lamisil. If you are not sure please call the office about any possible side effects.

Lamisil interacts with very few other medications. If you are taking Tagamet, which is a medication for stomach or ulcer problems, or cyclosporine that is used for kidney transplant patients, please let me know. Pregnant and nursing mothers should <u>not</u> take this medication.

The brand name Lamisil medication was very expensive. Most insurance companies imposed difficult prior authorization requirements and many patients could not receive this therapy. Recently the same terbinafine tablets have become available generically. Target and Walmart pharmacies are offering a one month supply for \$4.00. If you have any trouble filling your prescription please take it to one of these pharmacies. This will insure you receive the best medication for your problem.

As noted above, Lamisil is a safe and effective medication for the treatment of many skin fungal infections. If you have any other questions regarding this medication, please ask before you leave the office.