

Journal of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, 2002; 110: 862-866. *"Intranasal antifungal treatment in 51 patients with chronic rhinosinusitis."*

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Researchers in the United States say that results from an open-label pilot trial suggest direct muco-administration of an anti-fungal drug appears to be effective in treating chronic rhinosinusitis. They report that twice-daily use of the anti-fungal drug improved sinusitis symptoms in 75 percent of 51 chronic rhinosinusitis patients participating in the trial. Endoscopic examination indicated 35 percent became disease-free. Investigators from the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota, conducted the open-label trial of intranasal amphotericin B applied at 20 mL of a 100 micrograms/mL solution twice daily. Outcomes measured used patient symptoms and an endoscopic scoring system. Pre- and post-treatment coronal computed tomographic scans of the nose and sinuses were also done in 13 patients. Results indicate sinusitis symptoms improved in 38 of the 51 patients (75 percent). Endoscopic evaluations showed 18 of the 51 patients (35 percent) became disease-free and an additional 20 patients (39 percent) had at least a one-stage improvement. Pre- and post-treatment computed tomographic scans demonstrated a significant reduction in inflammatory mucosa thickening that had occluded paranasal sinuses, the researchers note. They say controlled, blinded trials of the intranasal anti-fungal drug are indicated to clarify its novel role in the treatment of chronic rhinosinusitis.