SUMMARY OF PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

1. Name of the medicinal product
Griseofulvin Tablets 500mg

2. Qualitative and quantitative composition
Each Uncoated tablet contains 500 mg Griseofulvin

Excipients of known effect:
Each tablet contains 17.0 mg of lactose monohydrate.

Excipient of know effect: lactose

For a full list of excipients, see section 6.1

3. Pharmaceutical form
Tablet**.**
White, circular and uncoated tablets.

4.Clinical particulars:
4.1 Therapeutic indications
The treatment of fungal infections of the skin, scalp, hair or nails where topical therapy is considered inappropriate or has failed.
When griseofulvin is given orally for systemic treatment of fungal infections, it enables newly-formed keratin of the skin, hair and nails to resist attack by the fungi. As the new keratin extends, the old infected keratin is shed.
Griseofulvin is effective against the dermatophytes causing ringworm (tinea), including: Microsporum canis and T. Verrucosum.
Griseofulvin is not effective in infections caused by Candida albicans(monilia), Aspergilli, Malassezia furfur (Pityriasis versicolor) and Nocardia species.

4.2 Posology and method of administration
Posology
Adults
Normally 500 to 1000 mg daily, but not less than 10 mg/kg bodyweight daily.
A single dose daily is often satisfactory, but divided doses may be more effective in patients who respond poorly.
Paediatric population
Usually 10 mg/kg (5 mg/lb) body weight daily in divided doses.
Duration of Treatment
This depends upon the thickness of keratin at the site of infection. For hair or skin at least four weeks treatment is required, whereas toe or fingernails may need six to twelve months treatment. Therapy should be continued for at least two weeks after all signs of infection have disappeared.

Method of administration
Oral

4.3 Contraindications
Porphyria or severe liver disease. Griseofulvin may cause liver disease to deteriorate, and liver function should be monitored in such conditions.
Systemic Lupus Erythematosus: griseofulvin has been reported to exacerbate the condition.
Hypersensitivity to the active substance or to any of the excipients listed in section
There is no evidence of the safety of Griseofulvin in human pregnancy. Griseofulvin is teratogenic in animals and some case reports of human foetal abnormalities have been observed. Therefore, Griseofulvin should not be used in pregnancy, or in women intending to become pregnant within one month following cessation of treatment.
Males should not father children within six months of treatment with Griseofulvin.
Long term administration of high doses of griseofulvin with food has been reported to induce hepatomas in mice and thyroid tumours in rats but not hamsters. The clinical significance of these findings in man is not known. In view of these data, Griseofulvin tablets should not be used prophylactically.

4.4 Special warnings and precautions for use
Do not take Griseofulvin
if you are allergic (hypersensitive) to griseofulvin or any of the other ingredients of the tablets-
if you suffer from a rare disease called porphyria if you suffer from a rare painful skin and tissue disease called Systemic Lupus Erythematosus, or SLE if you have severe liver disease
if you are pregnant, or you think you might be pregnant, or you are planning to get pregnant
if you are breastfeeding
If any of the above apply to you, do not take the tablets and go back to your doctor.

Take special care with Griseofulvin
If any of the following points apply to you, you should discuss them with your doctor before starting to take Griseofulvin.
If you have liver disease, your doctor may want to check on you while taking this medicine
If you have had an allergic (hypersensitivity) reaction previously to penicillin or to cephalosporins, both types of antibiotics. There is a possibility you may be sensitive to griseofulvin

If you are relying on oral contraception, the “pill”, griseofulvin may prevent it working. All sexually active patients should use additional barrier contraception, such as condoms, throughout griseofulvin therapy, and for four weeks (female) and 6 months (male) after stopping the therapy
If you are a man planning to father a child, griseofulvin may damage your sperm. You should not father a child while taking griseofulvin and for six months after you have stopped taking it. You and your partner should use additional contraceptive measures to prevent pregnancy during this period.
If you suffer from a rare painful skin and tissue disease called Systemic Lupus Erythematosus, or SLE Alcoholic drinks, and anything containing alcohol, should be avoided while you are taking Griseofulvin. Griseofulvin may make the alcohol affect you more. Alcohol and griseofulvin may cause a disulfiram reaction-you will feel sick, may be sick, blush, have an irregular heartbeat, and chest and / or abdominal pain.
Your skin becomes more sensitive to sunlight or ultraviolet (UV) light when taking Griseofulvin. Avoid exposure to strong sunlight, or artificial UV light such as sunbeds.
Griseofulvin may result in the overgrowth of non-susceptible organisms, i.e. bacteria or yeasts, or non-dermatophyte fungi, that are often cofactors in tinea infections, especially tinea pedis. Additional therapy is required to control or eradicate such organisms, as griseofulvin is ineffective

4.5 Interaction with other medicinal products and other forms of interaction
Griseofulvin may decrease the blood level and hence efficacy of certain drugs, which are metabolised by cytochrome P4503A4. These include oral contraceptives, coumarin anticoagulants and ciclosporin. Appropriate monitoring should be undertaken and dosage should be adjusted as necessary. Additional contraceptive precautions should be taken during griseofulvin treatment and for a month after stopping griseofulvin.
Absorption of griseofulvin is inhibited when phenobarbitone is taken concurrently. The blood level, and hence efficacy, of griseofulvin may also be impaired as the result of concurrent administration of substances such as phenylbutazone and sedative and hypnotic drugs which induce metabolising enzymes.
Patients should be warned that an enhancement of the effects of alcohol by griseofulvin has been reported.

4.6 Fertility, pregnancy and lactation
<u>Pregnancy</u>
There is no evidence of its safety in human pregnancy
Griseofulvin has been shown to be teratogenic in mice and rats following administration to pregnant animals. Some case-reports suggest that it produces human foetal abnormalities.

As Griseofulvin is capable of inducing aneuploidy (abnormal segregation of chromosomes following cell division) in mammalian cells exposed to the compound in vitro and in vivo, women should be warned that they should not take the drug during pregnancy or become pregnant within one month following cessation of treatment.

Lactation

It is not known if griseofulvin is excreted in human milk. Safety in children of mothers who are breast-feeding has not been established.

4.7 Effects on ability to drive and use machines

In those rare cases where individuals are affected by drowsiness while taking griseofulvin, they should not drive vehicles or operate machinery.

4.8 Undesirable effects

Diarrhoea, nausea and vomiting are common adverse events.
Headache and gastric discomfort sometimes occur, but usually disappear as treatment continues. On rare occasions urticarial reactions, skin rashes and precipitation of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus have been reported.
Toxic epidermal necrolysis and erythema multiforme have been reported.
Significant elevations in LFTs (greater than three times the upper limit of normal) have been reported very rarely.
There have been reports of central nervous system effects e.g. confusion, dizziness, impaired co-ordination and peripheral neuropathy.

Leucopenia with neutropenia has been reported.
Photosensitivity reactions can occur on exposure to intense natural or artificial sunlight.
Drowsiness has been reported.

Reporting of suspected adverse reactions

Reporting suspected adverse reactions after authorisation of the medicinal product is important. It allows continued monitoring of the benefit/risk balance of the medicinal product. Healthcare professionals are asked to report any suspected adverse reactions via Pharmacovigilance Electronic Reporting System (PvERS) https://pv.pharmacyboardkenya.org/

4.9 Overdose

Treatment is unlikely to be required in cases of acute overdosage.

5. Pharmacological properties

5.1 Pharmacodynamic properties

Pharmacotherapeutic group: Antifungal
ATC Code: D01BA01

Mechanism of action
Griseofulvin is an antifungal antibiotic which is active in vitro against common dermatophytes. It exerts its antifungal effect by disrupting the cell division spindle apparatus of fungal cells, thereby arresting cell division.
A prominent morphological manifestation of the action of griseofulvin is the production of multinucleate cells as the drug inhibits fungal mitosis.
Griseofulvin causes disruption of the mitotic spindle by interacting with polymerised microtubules while the effects of the drug are thus similar to those of colchicine and vinca alkaloids, its binding sites on the microtubular protein are distinct.

5.2 Pharmacokinetic properties
Absorption
The absorption of griseofulvin from the gastrointestinal tract is variable and incomplete. On average, less than 50% of the oral dose is absorbed, but fatty foods and a reduction in particle size will increase the rate and extent of the absorption.

Distribution
After oral dosing there is a phase of rapid absorption followed by slower prolonged absorption. Peak plasma levels (0.5 - 1.5 micrograms after a 500mg oral dose) are achieved by 4 hours and are maintained for 10 - 20 hours. The terminal plasma half-life ranges from 9.5 - 21 hours, there being considerable intersubject variability. In plasma griseofulvin is approximately 84% bound to plasma proteins, predominantly albumin.

Elimination
The absorbed griseofulvin is excreted in the urine mainly as 6-desmethylgriseofulvin or its glucuronide conjugate.
There is selective deposition of griseofulvin in newly formed keratin of hair, nails and skin, which gradually moves to the surface of these appendages

safety data
Griseofulvin can induce aneuploidy and meiotic delay in mouse oocytes following oral administration of high doses, i.e. 250mg/kg or greater. In addition, griseofulvin caused increases in numerical and structural chromosome aberrations in mouse spermatocytes at doses of 500mg/kg and above. Aneuploidy was observed at doses of 1500mg/kg. Griseofulvin administered to rats and mice during pregnancy has been associated with foetotoxicity and foetal malformations. Long-term administration of high doses of griseofulvin with food has been reported to induce hepatomas in mice and thyroid tumours in rats but not hamsters. The
effects in mice may be due to a species-specific effect on porphyrin metabolism.

5.3 Preclinical safety data
None

6. Pharmaceutical particulars

6.1 List of excipients
Lactose
Maize starch
Microcrystalline Cellulose
H.P.M.C
Purified Water
Purified Talc
Magnesium Stearate
Colloidal Anhydrous Silica
Cross Carmellose Sodium

6.2 Incompatibilities
Not Applicable

6.3 Shelf life
36 months.

6.4 Special precautions for storage
Store at the temperature not exceeding 30°C. Protect from light and moisture. Keep medicines out of reach of children.

6.5 Nature and contents of container
10 Tablets packed in one ALU-PVC blister. Such 10-blister packed in carton along with insert.

6.6 Special precautions for disposal and other handling
No special requirements

7. MARKETING AUTHORISATION HOLDER

Marketing Authorisation Holder:
ZAIN PHARMA LTD.
Plot No: 209/13741, Colchester Park,
Go-Down No.1, 2, 3, Off Mombasa Road,
Behind Nice and Lovely House,
P.O. Box: 100167-00101, Nairobi, Kenya

8. Marketing Authorization Number:
H2025/CTD12728/27010

9. Date of First <Registration> / Renewal of The Registration>
2025 December 08

10. Date of Revision of the Text:
2025 December 08