

Ask The Experts

Use of nail medication when trying for baby

Q I am a Chinese woman in my 30s. A month ago, my husband and I decided to try for a baby so I stopped using Loceryl. This is a brand of nail lacquer to treat fungal infection in the nails.

I stopped using it because I am concerned that it will affect the development of the foetus, in case I become pregnant.

But I have noticed that the condition of my toe nails has worsened.

In view of the condition of my nails, can I use the nail lacquer again, and stop applying it once I discover that I am pregnant?

A Loceryl, which contains 5 per cent amorolfine, is used to treat fungal infections of the nails (onychomycosis).

As it is a relatively new type of medication against fungi, whether it is safe for use during pregnancy and breastfeeding has not been established yet.

As you are trying for a baby, it would be

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advisable to stop the use of Loceryl and switch to other topical antifungals, such as clotrimazole lotion.

There are also a number of oral antifungals which are effective in treating onychomycosis and may be safe to use during pregnancy.

You should consult a dermatologist to determine the strain of fungus affecting your nails and the underlying cause of the fungal infection.

This can be done via a microscopy test, which involves scraping the fungi from a sample of your nail and examining it under a microscope.

Alternatively, this can be done via a fungal

culture, which involves scraping the fungi from your nail clipping and then growing it in a laboratory.

Based on the test result, the dermatologist can then advise you on how best to go about addressing your situation.



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