

1 ***In vitro* activities of the tetrazole SHR8008 compared to itraconazole and**
2 **fluconazole against *Candida* and *Cryptococcus* species**

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10 **Running title:** A tetrazole against *Candida* and *Cryptococcus*

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19 determined by drawing straws.

20 **Abstract**

21 *Candida* and *Cryptococcus* are the main pathogens of clinical fungal infection associated
22 with high morbidity and mortality. SHR8008 (in fact, this is the only official name in
23 China and it is called VT-1161 by FDA) is a novel tetrazole agent that selectively inhibits
24 fungal CYP51A compared to mammalian cytochrome P450 enzymes to achieve a better
25 antifungal effect. The *in vitro* activities of SHR8008 and its comparators itraconazole and
26 fluconazole were determined in 127 *Candida* and 50 *Cryptococcus* strains isolated from
27 Chinese patients in the last 2 years by Invasive Fungal Infection Group. The MICs of
28 SHR8008 and other triazoles were measured by the Clinical and Laboratory Standards
29 Institute guidelines M27-E4. For *Candida* spp., SHR8008 (geometric mean MIC=0.078
30 µg/mL) was 6.5-fold and 11.2-fold more potent than itraconazole and fluconazole,
31 respectively. There is a good correlation of MICs between SHR8008 and
32 itraconazole/fluconazole. The MIC values of SHR8008 against *Candida glabrata* and
33 *Candida tropicalis* were significantly lower than those of fluconazole, while for *Candida*
34 *albicans* and *Candida parapsilosis*, the differences between SHR8008 and fluconazole
35 were not statistically significant, either. For *Cryptococcus* spp., SHR8008 (geometric
36 mean MIC=0.024 µg/mL) was 21.7-fold and 104.5-fold more potent than itraconazole
37 and fluconazole, respectively. Against the seven *Cryptococcus neoformans* isolates with
38 elevated fluconazole MICs ($\geq 8\mu\text{g/mL}$ based on the MIC₉₀ value for this azole), SHR8008
39 maintained potent activity, with MICs ranging between 0.031 and 0.5 µg/mL. The results
40 showed that tetrazole SHR8008 was more promising in the treatment of *Candida* and

41 *Cryptococcus* infection than itraconazole and fluconazole.

42 **Keywords:** SHR8008, itraconazole, fluconazole, *Candida*, *Cryptococcus*, MIC

43 **Introduction**

44 A growing number of immunocompromised patients have augmented morbidity of fungal
45 infections, which range from easily treatable superficial type to life-threatening invasive
46 infections(1, 2). The annual fungal infection incidences of common pathogens, including
47 *Candida*, *Cryptococcus neoformans* and *Aspergillus*, have reached more than one in
48 10,000, and the incidence of *Candida* infections has risen to fourth place in nosocomial
49 infections(3-5). According to the China Hospital Invasive Fungal Surveillance Net
50 (CHIF-NET) study, *Candida albicans* was the most common species (44.9%), followed
51 by the *Candida parapsilosis* complex (20.0%), *Candida tropicalis* (17.2%), and the
52 *Candida glabrata* complex (10.8%), with other species comprising 3% of *Candida*
53 isolates(6).

54 There are several approved clinical antifungal agents that have had some success in
55 reducing the high mortality of invasive fungal diseases such as candidiasis and
56 cryptococcosis(7, 8). The guidelines recommend that the treatment for cryptococcosis
57 includes the use of fluconazole as the primary treatment for mild to moderate pulmonary
58 infection, or for consolidation and maintenance after induction therapy, including
59 intravenous administration of amphotericin B and flucytosine for cryptococcal meningitis
60 or complex pulmonary disease(9). However, current treatment of cryptococcosis remains
61 limitations due to the reduced fluconazole susceptibility, the side effects of amphotericin
62 B and the availability of treatment in resource-limited situations, such as the lack of
63 access to 5-flucytosine and the high cost of liposome amphotericin B(10-12). With the

64 extensive use of azole antifungal drugs in clinical practice, the world's shift in favor of
65 non-albicans *Candida* species is troubling. *Candida glabrata* and *Candida tropicalis*
66 exhibited generally high rates of resistance to fluconazole. The emergence of
67 multidrug-resistant *Candida albicans* and *Candida auris* poses a threat to global
68 health(13-15).

69 The safer, more specific and more effective antifungal agents are needed. SHR8008 (in
70 fact, this is the only official name in China and it is called VT-1161 by FDA), is a novel
71 investigational tetrazole, which targets the biosynthesis of ergosterol by selectively
72 inhibiting fungal CYP51. SHR8008 has a lower affinity for heme-iron and a greater
73 affinity for the fungal CYP51 polypeptide than current azole drugs. As a result, SHR8008
74 more potently inhibits fungal CYP51 than current azoles and less potently inhibits host
75 cytochrome P450 enzymes, resulting in greater CYP selectivity. Therefore, SHR8008
76 avoids toxicity and drug interactions that occur with the cross-reaction of the azole with
77 the human cytochrome P450 enzyme(16, 17). Moreover, SHR8008 has shown promising
78 preclinical potential in the treatment of a wide range of fungal diseases, including
79 dermatomycosis, trypanosomiasis, mycosis, coccidiomycosis and so on(18-22). Thus, the
80 objective of this study was to evaluate the antifungal effect of SHR8008 systematically
81 and to compare it with the triazoles itraconazole (ITC) and fluconazole (FLC) against
82 common fluconazole-sensitive or resistant *Candida* and *Cryptococcus* strains isolated
83 from Chinese patients in the last 2 years by Invasive Fungal Infection Group (IFIG).

84

85 **Results**

86 **All *Candida* species**

87 SHR8008 MICs ranged from 0.016-4 µg/mL against 127 *Candida* isolates, with MIC₅₀
88 and MIC₉₀ values of 0.031 and 1 µg/mL, respectively. As shown in Figure 1, SHR8008
89 MICs using the 50% inhibition endpoint were towards the lower end of the concentration
90 ranges tested for the majority of isolates. The SHR8008 MICs were also lower than those
91 of FLC for all *Candida* isolates (Table 1) and this activity was maintained against
92 FLC-resistant predominantly isolates. Based on GM MIC, SHR8008 (GM MIC=0.078
93 µg/mL) was 6.5-fold and 11.2-fold more potent than ITC and FLC, respectively, and the
94 differences between SHR8008 and FLC were statistically significant (Table 1 and
95 Fig.1A). Good correlation between SHR8008 and ITC/FLC MICs (Pearson correlation
96 coefficients of 0.7210 between SHR8008 and ITC, Pearson correlation coefficients of
97 0.6859 between SHR8008 and FLC; Pearson $P < 0.001$; Figure. 2A and B) was observed,
98 suggesting that any *Candida* strains having high MICs of SHR8008 also show high MICs
99 of both ITC and FLC. SHR8008 showed similar good activity against *C. guilliermondii*,
100 *C. krusei* and *C. lusitaniae*. Then, The SHR8008 MICs were somewhat higher against
101 those of ITC or FLC-resistant *Candida* isolates, with MICs ranging between 0.016 and 4
102 µg/mL (Fig. 3). The MICs of SHR8008 were somewhat higher against the *C. glabrata*
103 isolates (range, 0.125 to 4 µg/mL; MIC₅₀ and MIC₉₀, 0.5 and 2 µg/mL, respectively). In
104 contrast, the other isolates were inhibited by lower concentrations of SHR8008, as
105 reflected by lower MIC ranges and MIC₅₀ and MIC₉₀ values. MIC values of SHR8008

106 against *C. glabrata* and *C. tropicalis* were significantly lower than those of FLC (Fig. 1B
107 and Fig. 1C), while for *C. albicans* and *C. parapsilosis*, the differences between
108 SHR8008 and FLC were not statistically significant, either (Fig. 1D and Fig. 1E).

109

110 ***Candida glabrata* and *Candida tropicalis***

111 SHR8008 demonstrated *in vitro* activity against 32 *Candida glabrata* isolates and 30
112 *Candida tropicalis* isolates tested in this study (Fig. 4A and Fig. 4B). All *C. glabrata* and
113 *C. tropicalis* isolates were inhibited by SHR8008 at concentrations of ≤ 4 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ after 24
114 h of incubation. The MIC₅₀ of SHR8008, ITC and FLC against *C. glabrata* isolates were
115 0.5, 1, 2 $\mu\text{g/mL}$, respectively. The MIC₅₀ against *C. tropicalis* isolates were 0.016, 0.5,
116 0.25 $\mu\text{g/mL}$, respectively. Based on GM MIC values read at 24 h, SHR8008 against *C.*
117 *glabrata* was 2.3 fold and 7.3 fold more potent than ITC and FLC, respectively. And
118 SHR8008 against *C. tropicalis* was 16.8 fold and 23.3 fold more potent than ITC and
119 FLC, respectively. In *C. glabrata* and *C. tropicalis* isolates the MIC₉₀ values of SHR8008
120 were 2, 1 $\mu\text{g/mL}$, respectively.

121

122 ***Candida albicans* and *Candida parapsilosis***

123 SHR8008 demonstrated *in vitro* activity against 32 *Candida albicans* isolates and 29
124 *Candida parapsilosis* isolates tested in this study (Fig. 4C and Fig. 4D). All *C. albicans*
125 and *C. parapsilosis* isolates were inhibited by SHR8008 at concentrations of ≤ 2 $\mu\text{g/mL}$
126 after 24 h of incubation. The MIC₅₀ of SHR8008, ITC and FLC against *C. albicans*

127 isolates were 0.031, 0.25, 0.125 $\mu\text{g/mL}$, respectively. And the MIC_{50} against *C.*
128 *parapsilosis* isolates were 0.031, 0.125, 0.25 $\mu\text{g/mL}$, respectively. The GM MICs of
129 SHR8008 for *C. albicans* and *C. parapsilosis* were very low (0.037 $\mu\text{g/mL}$; 0.042 $\mu\text{g/mL}$)
130 and MIC values of SHR8008 were ≤ 0.5 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ for all *C. albicans* (Fig. 4C). For *C.*
131 *albicans*, SHR8008 (GM MIC=0.037 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) was 8.6-fold and 10.9-fold more potent
132 than ITC and FLC, respectively. For *C. parapsilosis*, SHR8008 (GM MIC=0.042 $\mu\text{g/mL}$)
133 was 5-fold and 8-fold more potent than ITC and FLC, respectively. In *C. albicans* and *C.*
134 *parapsilosis* isolates the MIC_{90} values of SHR8008 were 0.125, 1 $\mu\text{g/mL}$, respectively.

135

136 ***Cryptococcus* species**

137 Overall, SHR8008 demonstrated potent activity against *Cryptococcus neoformans* with
138 MIC values ranging between 0.016-0.5 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ (Table 2). SHR8008 was more potent than
139 ITC and FLC for each isolate, as evident by the lower MIC range and MIC_{50} and MIC_{90}
140 values (Fig. 5). With the 50% inhibition endpoint, the SHR8008 MIC_{50} , MIC_{90} , and GM
141 MIC values were 0.016, 0.125, 0.024 $\mu\text{g/mL}$, respectively. Based on GM MIC, SHR8008
142 (GM MIC=0.024 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) was 21.7-fold and 104.5-fold more potent than ITC and FLC,
143 respectively, and the differences between SHR8008 and FLC were statistically significant.
144 The MIC distributions for SHR8008, ITC and FLC against the *C. neoformans* isolates are
145 shown in Fig.5. Against the seven isolates with elevated FLC MICs ($\geq 8\mu\text{g/mL}$ based on
146 the MIC_{90} value for this azole), SHR8008 maintained potent activity, with MICs ranging
147 between 0.031 and 0.5 $\mu\text{g/mL}$. The SHR8008 MICs of tested isolates were directly

148 plotted with MICs of ITC and FLC to visualize the relationship, indicating a certain
149 correlation between them (Pearson correlation coefficients of 0.5443 between SHR8008
150 and ITC, Pearson correlation coefficients of 0.5139 between SHR8008 and FLC; Pearson
151 $P \leq 0.001$; Figure. 6A and B).

152

153 **Discussion**

154 In this study, we systematically examined the *in vitro* susceptibility of yeast isolates
155 obtained from IFIG to SHR8008, a novel tetrazole optimized for treatment, and SHR8008
156 was found to be a potent inhibitor of common fluconazole-sensitive or resistant yeast
157 isolates. This tetrazole is more specific to fungal CYP51 than mammalian P450, so the
158 potential for clinically relevant drug interactions is reduced compared to triazole agents
159 that have been approved for use in humans(23).

160 The management strategies of recurrent vulvovaginal candidiasis (RVVC) is needed
161 urgently, and the indication for SHR8008 in phase three clinical development is RVVC
162 (<https://www.mycovia.com>). It is a debilitating, chronic infectious condition that affects
163 millions of women. Primary symptoms include vaginal itching, burning, irritation and
164 inflammation. RVVC is a global women's health concern, which impacts the quality of
165 life, to a degree comparable to asthma or COPD, and worse than diseases such as
166 headache or migraine(24, 25). However, long-term maintenance suppressive fluconazole
167 prophylaxis for RVVC frequently fails to cure the condition and serves only as an
168 effective control measurement in many cases(26, 27). SHR8008 was shown to be

169 effective and safe in the treatment of patients with recurrent vulvovaginal candidiasis(28).
170 In our study, SHR8008 had more potential *in vitro* activity against *Candida* spp. than
171 itraconazole and fluconazole and it was also promising in the treatment of invasive fungal
172 infection. SHR8008 was found to be a tight-binding ligand and a potent inhibitor of
173 CYP51 from the fungal pathogen *Candida* spp.(17).

174 We found that the MIC₅₀ of SHR8008 against the *C. glabrata* isolates was 0.5
175 µg/mL, which was higher than those against *C. albicans*, *C. parapsilosis* and *C. tropicalis*
176 isolates (MIC₅₀ ≤ 0.031 µg/mL) (Table 1 and Fig. 4). Schell *et al.* described that the
177 MIC₅₀ values of SHR8008 were 0.12 µg/mL and 0.25 µg/mL for resistant *C. glabrata* and
178 *C. krusei*, respectively(29). A previous study has reported that the *in vitro* and *in vivo*
179 activity of SHR8008 was maintained against fluconazole-resistant *C. albicans*
180 isolates(30). In the current study, this activity was also maintained against other *Candida*
181 isolates with resistance to azole (Fig. 3). However, Nishimoto *et al.* found that SHR8008
182 may not be an ideal alternative in triazole-resistant *C. glabrata* infection, as it appears to
183 be a substrate of the same efflux pumps associated with triazole resistance(31). Monk *et*
184 *al.* found that azole resistance predicts reduced susceptibility to the tetrazole antifungal
185 SHR8008, which is similar to this study(32). As shown in Fig. 2, a good correlation
186 between MICs of ITC/FLC and SHR8008 was observed in a MIC distribution graph.
187 MIC values of SHR8008 against *C. glabrata* and *C. tropicalis* were significantly lower
188 than those of fluconazole (Table 1), so SHR8008 might make a breakthrough in the
189 treatment of non-albicans infection.

190 *Cryptococcus* is a problematic opportunistic pathogen that causes invasive infection
191 with high mortality. In particular, HIV-associated cryptococcal meningitis results in
192 150,000–200,000 deaths per year in sub-Saharan Africa(33-35). A clinical study showed
193 that 30% of patients with cryptococcal meningitis receiving recommended therapy died
194 by day 70(36). SHR8008 also demonstrated activity against *Cryptococcus* spp., with
195 elevated itraconazole and fluconazole MICs (Fig. 5). MIC range of SHR8008 against *C.*
196 *neoformans* was considerably low (0.016-0.5 µg/ml). In this study, we found a good
197 correlation between SHR8008, itraconazole and fluconazole susceptibility for *Candida*
198 spp., while a lower correlation was seen in *Cryptococcus* spp. (Fig. 6). The activity of
199 SHR8008 against *Cryptococcus neoformans* was comparable to that previously reported
200 the novel tetrazole VT-1129 (GM MIC=0.0271 µg/ml), although there was no direct
201 comparison between them(37). These data suggest that SHR8008 may be a promising
202 agent against *Cryptococcus* species. Further studies, for instance, the additional in vivo
203 studies, including pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic evaluations and experimental
204 models using isolates with different resistance profiles, are needed to determine how this
205 investigational tetrazole may be used in the treatment of *Cryptococcus* infections.

206 In a murine model of Vaginal Candidiasis, Garvey *et al.* have demonstrated the
207 efficacy of the clinical agent SHR8008 against fluconazole-sensitive and -resistant
208 albicans, whereas fluconazole did not sustain efficacy 4 days post treatment(38). Recently,
209 the first case of successful use of orally administered SHR8008 to treat RVVC has been
210 published. SHR8008 exhibited higher levels of oral bioavailability and plasma protein

211 binding than triazoles and showed excellent penetration into the vaginal and oral mucosa
212 as determined in nonclinical models. In addition, there was also no evidence of an
213 adverse effect of SHR8008 on liver function and SHR8008 further reduces the likelihood
214 of problems arising from circulating drug substance(28). Thus, although the clinical
215 breakpoints for the compound are not yet known, the MIC values reported here likely
216 represent clinically relevant antifungal potencies.

217 SHR8008 is now under clinical development. The *in vitro* data of SHR8008 in our
218 study indicates its potential to become a new generation of drug candidate for *Candida*
219 and *Cryptococcus* infection prevention and treatment.

220

221 **Materials and methods**

222 **Antifungal agents**

223 SHR8008 (VT-1161, powders >99% pure) was synthesized by Mycovia Pharmaceuticals,
224 Inc (DURHAM, NC, USA), whereas itraconazole (99% pure; Shanghai Aladdin
225 Bio-Chem Technology Co., LTD, Shanghai, China), fluconazole (99% pure; National
226 Institutes for Food and Drug Control, Beijing, China) were procured from commercial
227 sources. Three drugs are supplied by Jiangsu Hengrui Medicine Co., Ltd. (Lianyungang,
228 China).

229

230 **Strains**

231 A collection of 177 clinical yeast strains isolated from IFIG, Shanghai East Hospital,

232 were used in the study, including 32 *Candida albicans*, 32 *Candida glabrata*, 29 *Candida*
233 *parapsilosis*, 30 *Candida tropicalis*, two *Candida guilliermondii*, one *Candida krusei*,
234 one *Candida lusitaniae* and 50 *Cryptococcus neoformans*. *Candida parapsilosis* (ATCC
235 22019) and *Candida krusei* (ATCC 6258) were also used as quality control (QC) strains.
236 They were inoculated onto CHROMagar *Candida* or Sabouraud dextrose agar culture
237 medium following the National Clinical Laboratory Procedures (4th Edition). According
238 to the color of the growing colony, the VITEK-2 Compact YST card (bioMérieux) or
239 MALDI-TOF MS (bioMérieux or Bruker) was performed for preliminary identification.
240 All the strains were identified by MALDI-TOF MS (Autobio) in the Central Laboratories
241 (Shanghai East Hospital) again, and the strains with inconsistent results were identified
242 by rDNA sequence analysis of the internal transcribed spacer (ITS) region (ITS1 primer:
243 TCCGTAGGTGAACCTGCGG; ITS4 primer: TCCTCCGCTTATTGATATG).

244

245 **Antifungals and susceptibility testing**

246 Antifungal susceptibility testing of yeasts was performed by broth microdilution in
247 accordance with the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute (CLSI) M27-E4
248 reference standard(39). As stated in the protocol, Roswell Park Memorial Institute (RPMI)
249 1640 culture medium, with glutamine, without bicarbonate, and with phenol red as a pH
250 indicator (Thermofisher), with 0.165 mol/L 3-(N-morpholino) propanesulfonic acid
251 (MOPS; Sangong) was used to incubate strains across serially diluted concentrations of
252 each azole. The $0.25\text{--}0.5 \times 10^3$ cells/mL inoculum suspensions of yeasts were obtained

253 from 24 h (*Candida* spp.) or 48h (*Cryptococcus* spp.) cultured Sabouraud dextrose agar
254 plates at 35°C. Inoculum concentrations were verified by quantitative culture. Three
255 antifungal agents were dissolved in dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO). The drugs were prepared
256 at the following concentrations: 320 µg/mL for SHR8008 and ITC and 1280 µg/mL for
257 FLC. The solutions were diluted in RPMI medium and the final drug concentrations
258 ranging from 16 to 0.016 µg/mL, except for fluconazole, which ranged from 128 to 0.125
259 µg/mL. The results were read separately at 24 h (*Candida* spp.) and 72 h (*Cryptococcus*
260 spp.) after incubation. MIC endpoints were determined visually as the lowest
261 concentration of compound that resulted in a decrease of growth by 50% relative to that
262 of the growth control (azole endpoint: SHR8008, itraconazole, and fluconazole). MICs
263 were determined in duplicate for clinical isolates. Categorical results were interpreted
264 following the CLSI M60 document(40).

265

266 **Data analysis**

267 Statistical analyses of all the data were performed using GraphPad PRISM 8 software
268 program and the results are reported as MIC range, geometric mean MIC (GM MIC),
269 MIC₅₀ and MIC₉₀. The MIC₅₀ and MIC₉₀ values reported for SHR8008, itraconazole and
270 fluconazole, were defined as the minimum drug concentrations required to inhibit 50%
271 and 90% of the clinical yeast isolates tested, respectively. Differences in MICs, calculated
272 following log₂ transformation of individual MIC values, were assessed for significance by
273 ANOVA followed by Tukey's multiple comparison test. A *P* value of <0.05 was

274 considered statistically significant. The correlation between SHR8008 MICs and those of
275 the other antifungals was also assessed by Pearson correlation using log₂-transformed
276 MIC values.

277

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427 **Figure Legends**

428 **Fig. 1. MICs of SHR8008, itraconazole and fluconazole for all *Candida* isolates**
429 **tested.** MICs of SHR8008, itraconazole and fluconazole determined by the CLSI method
430 for all tested *Candida* isolates are plotted. (A) All *Candida* isolates. (B) *C. glabrata*
431 isolates. (C) *C. tropicalis* isolates. (D) *C. albicans* isolates. (E) *C. parapslosis* isolates. $P <$
432 0.001, significant. NS, not significant; ITC, itraconazole; FLC, fluconazole.

433

434 **Fig. 2. Individual MIC distribution and correlation.** Relationship of MIC distribution
435 for all *Candida* isolates between SHR8008 and itraconazole (A), fluconazole (B) is
436 shown. ITC, itraconazole; FLC, fluconazole. R, Pearson correlation coefficient ($|r| = 1.0$,
437 completely correlated; $|r| = 0.8 \sim 1.0$, highly correlated; $|r| = 0.5 \sim 0.8$, significantly
438 correlated. $|r| = 0.3 \sim 0.5$, low correlation; $|r| < 0.3$, weak correlation; $R = 0$, no correlation);
439 $P < 0.0001$, the two are significantly (strongly) correlated.

440

441 **Fig. 3. Distribution of SHR8008 MICs against all fluconazole-resistant *Candida***
442 **isolates (n=19).**

443

444 **Fig. 4. Distribution of SHR8008, itraconazole and fluconazole MICs against *Candida***
445 **isolates.** (A) *C. glabrata* isolates. (B) *C. tropicalis* isolates. (C) *C. albicans* isolates. (D)
446 *C. parapslosis* isolates.

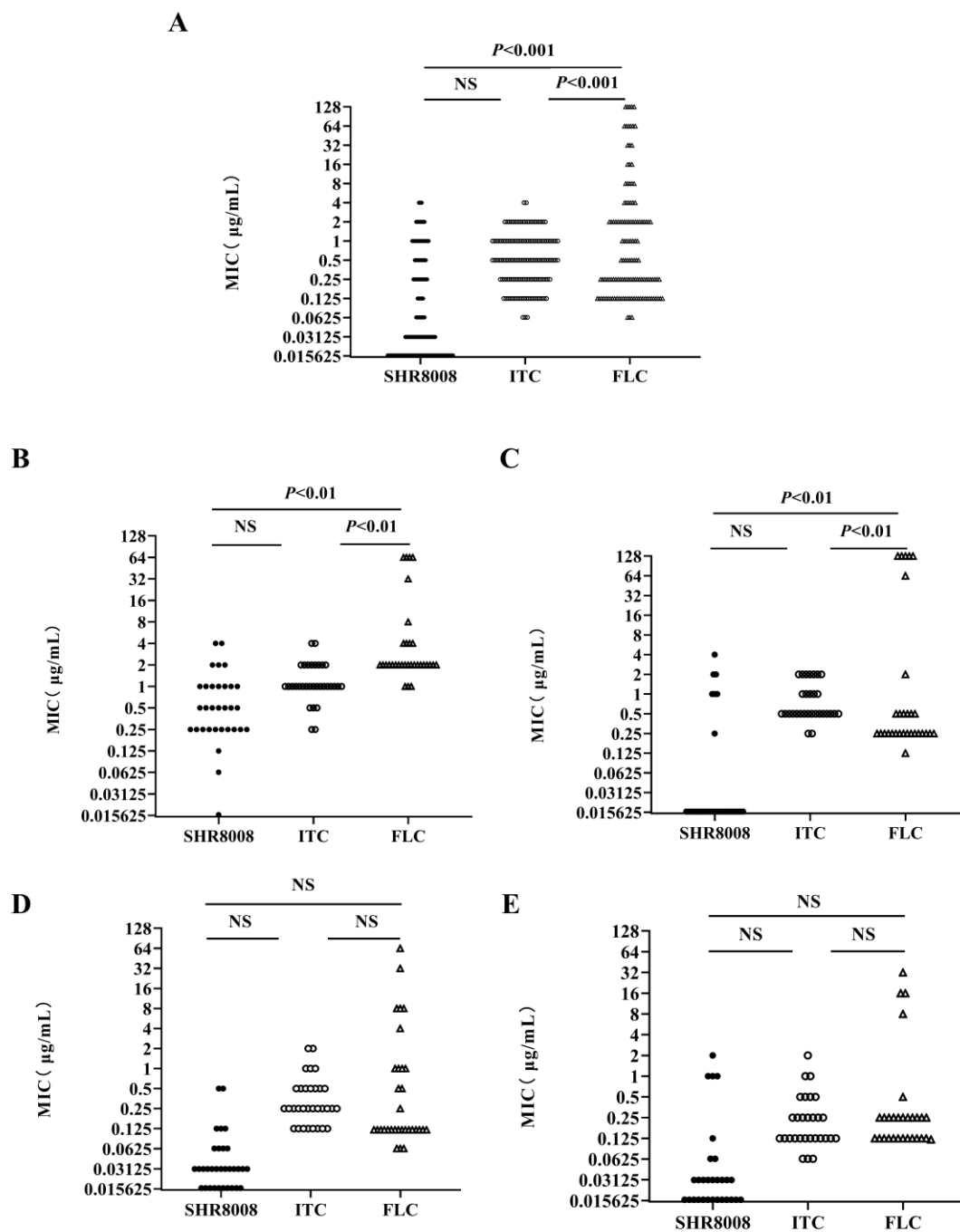
447

448 **Fig. 5. MICs of SHR8008, itraconazole and fluconazole for all *Cryptococcus***
449 ***neoformans* isolates tested.** MICs of SHR8008, itraconazole and fluconazole determined
450 by the CLSI method for all tested *Cryptococcus neoformans* isolates (n=50) are plotted.
451 $P < 0.001$, significant. NS, not significant; ITC, itraconazole; FLC, fluconazole.

452

453 **Fig. 6. Individual MIC distribution and correlation.** Relationship of MIC distribution
454 for all tested *Cryptococcus neoformans* isolates between SHR8008 and itraconazole (A),
455 fluconazole (B) is shown. ITC, itraconazole; FLC, fluconazole.

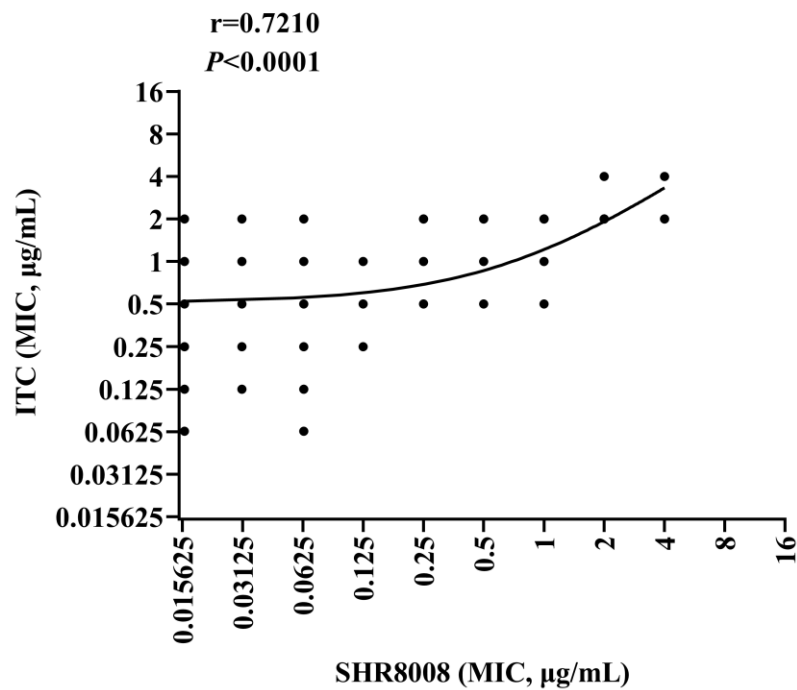
456 **Figure 1.**



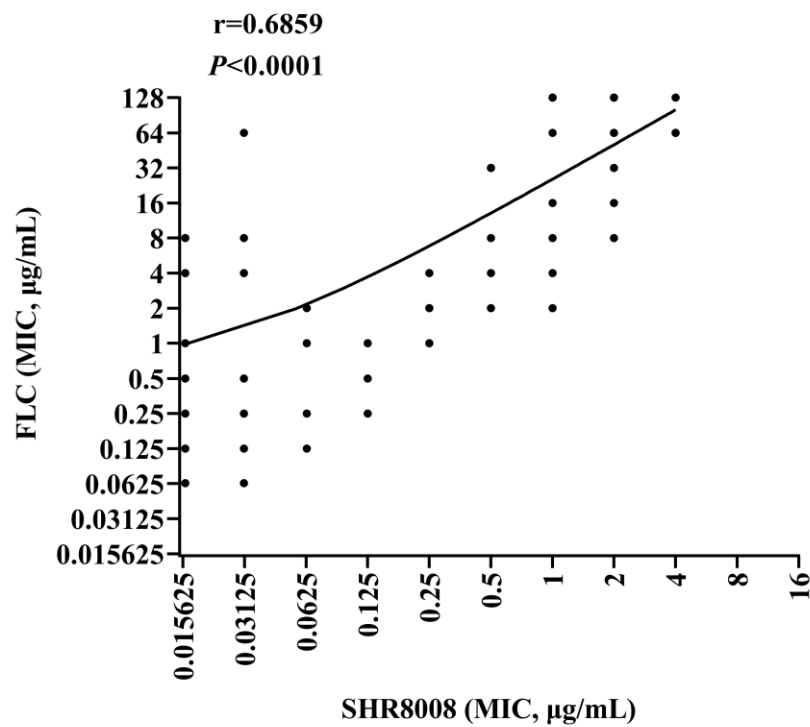
457

458 **Figure 2.**

A

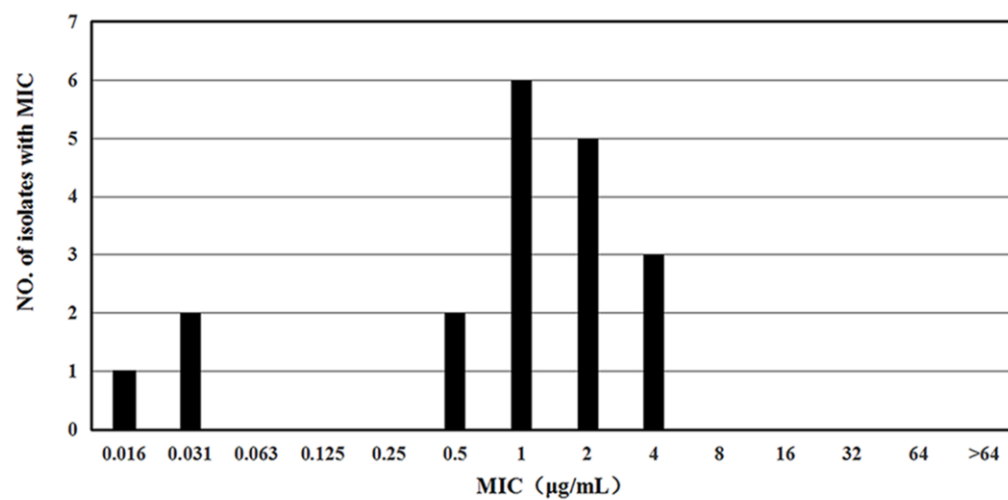


B



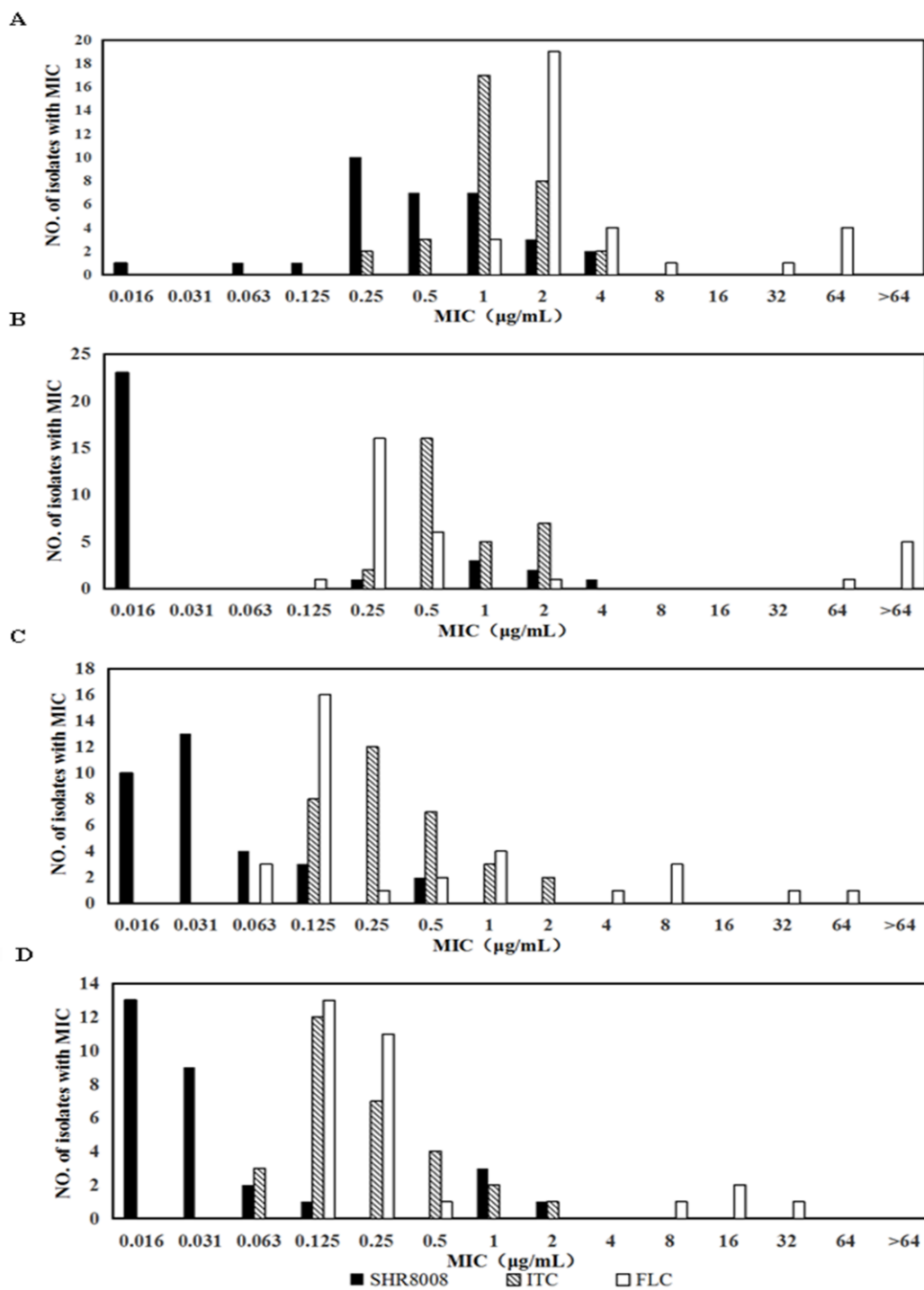
459

460 **Figure 3.**



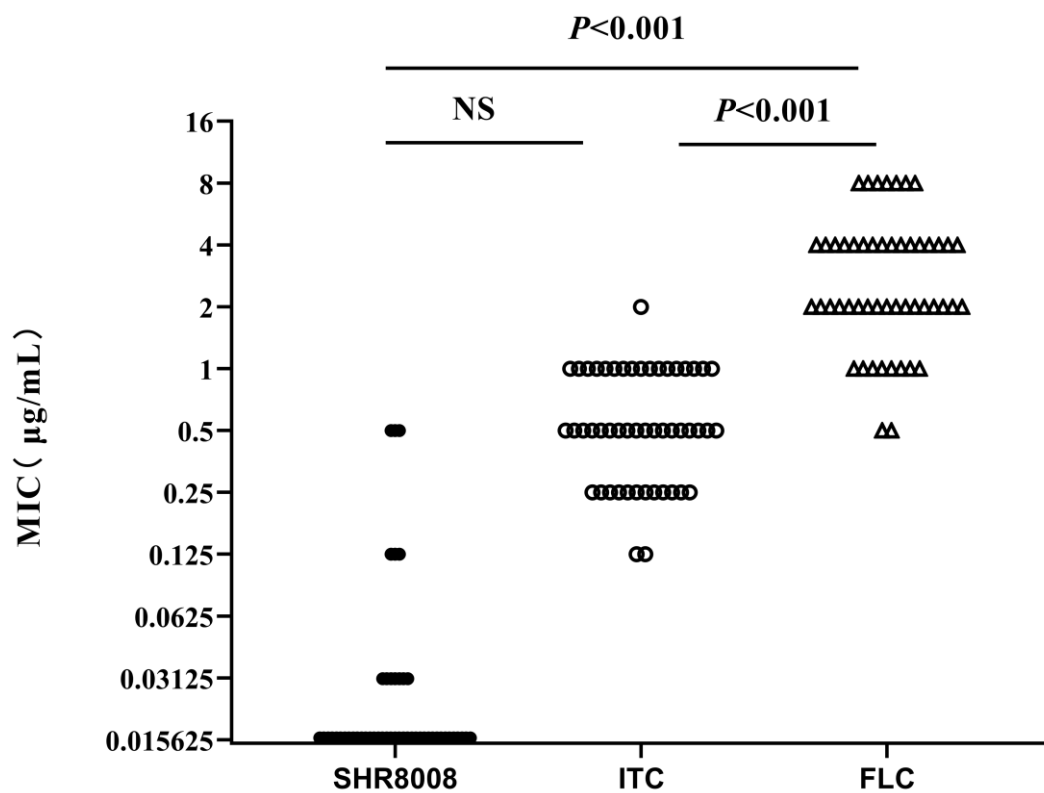
461

462 **Figure 4.**



463

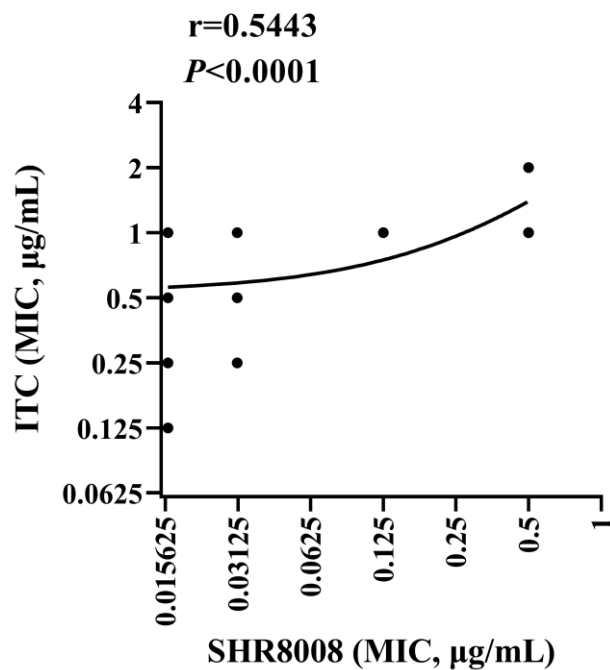
464 **Figure 5.**



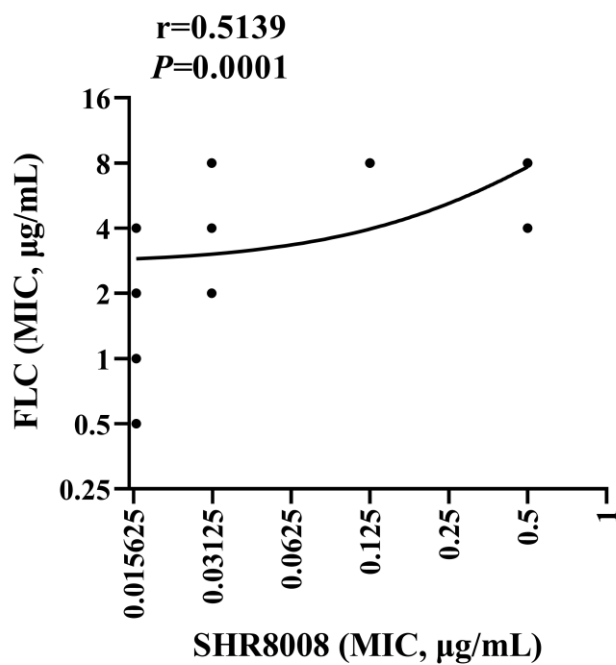
465

466 **Figure 6.**

A



B



467

468 Table 1. SHR8008, itraconazole and fluconazole MICs against all *Candida* isolates
 469 (n=127)

Species	Drug ^a	MIC Range (µg/mL)	GM MIC ^b (µg/mL)	MIC ₅₀ ^b (µg/mL)	MIC ₉₀ ^b (µg/mL)
Total (n=127 ^c)	SHR8008	0.016-4	0.078	0.031	1
	ITC	0.063-4	0.506	0.5	2
	FLC	0.063->128	0.873	0.5	32
<i>Candida glabrata</i> (n=32)	SHR8008	0.125-4	0.49	0.5	2
	ITC	0.25-4	1.114	1	2
	FLC ^{df}	1-64	3.589	2	64
<i>Candida tropicalis</i> (n=30)	SHR8008	0.016-4	0.044	0.016	1
	ITC	0.25-2	0.741	0.5	2
	FLC ^{ef}	0.125->128	1.023	0.25	>64.0
<i>Candida albicans</i> (n=32)	SHR8008	0.016-0.5	0.037	0.031	0.125
	ITC	0.125-2	0.317	0.25	1
	FLC ^e	0.063-64	0.403	0.125	8
<i>Candida parapsilosis</i> (n=29)	SHR8008	0.016-2	0.042	0.031	1
	ITC	0.063-2	0.212	0.125	1
	FLC ^e	0.125-32	0.333	0.25	16

470 ^a ITC, itraconazole; FLC, fluconazole

471 ^b GM, geometric mean MIC; MIC₅₀, MICs at which 50% of the isolates are inhibited;
 472 MIC₉₀, MICs at which 90% of the isolates are inhibited.

473 ^c In addition to those specifically listed, there are two *Candida guilliermondii*, one
 474 *Candida krusei* and one *Candida lusitanae* in 127 *Candida* isolates.

475 ^d CLSI clinical breakpoints: resistant \geq 64 (µg/mL); susceptible dose-dependent \leq 32
 476 (µg/mL);

477 ^e CLSI clinical breakpoints: resistant \geq 8 (µg/mL); susceptible dose-dependent = 4
 478 (µg/mL); susceptible \leq 2 (µg/mL).

479 ^f $P < 0.01$ versus SHR8008.

480 Table 2. SHR8008, itraconazole and fluconazole MICs against *Cryptococcus neoformans*
 481 isolates (n=50)

Compound s ^a	MIC range (µg/mL)	GM ^b (µg/mL)	MIC ₅₀ ^b (µg/mL)	MIC ₉₀ ^b (µg/mL)	MIC distribution and range (µg/mL)												
					0.01 6	0.03 1	0.06 3	0.12 5	0.25	0.5	1	2	4	8	16		
SHR8008	0.016-0.5	0.024	0.016	0.125	37	7		3	3								
ITR	0.125-2	0.521	0.5	1				2	12	18	17	1					
FLC	0.5-8.0	2.567	2	8						2	8	17	16	7			

482 ^a ITC, itraconazole; FLC, fluconazole

483 ^b GM, geometric mean MIC; MIC₅₀, MICs at which 50% of the isolates are inhibited;

484 MIC₉₀, MICs at which 90% of the isolates are inhibited.