

## NA54: Potassium Dichromate

### CAS#: 7778-50-9

#### Patient Information

Your patch test result indicates that you have a contact allergy to potassium dichromate. This contact allergy may cause your skin to react when it is exposed to this substance although it may take several days for the symptoms to appear. Typical symptoms include redness, swelling, itching, and fluid-filled blisters.

#### Where is potassium dichromate found?

Potassium dichromate is found naturally in our environment: in sand, ash, clay, and loam. It can be found in tools made of steel, and chrome-plated objects (silverware, handles, bracelets, needles, etc.). Chromium is also used as a component in leather (shoes, suede, upholstery) and fur-tanning agents, wood preservatives, anti-corrosion paints, fire retardants, printing inks, color glazes, chromium pigments, dark textile dyes, concrete, epoxy hardeners, and photographic color developer. Chromate is also found in cement (not dried) and metal plating and is a cause of occupational dermatitis in bricklayers, construction workers, and metal workers.

#### How can you avoid contact with potassium dichromate?

Avoid products that list any of the following names in the ingredients:

- Potassiumdichromate
- Bichromate
- Chromium and chromium salts
- Chromic acid salts
- Dipotassiumdichromate
- Chromium compounds
- Chromium metal or chrome

#### What are some products that may contain potassium dichromate?

- Anti-Corrosion Paints
- Chromium Pigments
- Color Glazes
- Concrete
- Cosmetics:
  - Concealers
  - Eye shadow
  - Powder
  - Eyeliner
  - Foundations
- Dental Care:
  - Chrome-nickel alloy dental crowns
- Epoxy Hardeners
- Fire Retardants

- Foods:
  - Apple peel
  - Canned fruit
  - Potatoes
  - Tea
  - Wine
  - Beer
  - Chocolate
  - Spices
  - Vegetables
  - Dietary supplement- chromium picolinate
- Household Items:
  - Handles
  - Silverware
  - Needles
- Jewelry:
  - Bracelets
  - Necklaces
  - Watches
  - Earrings
  - Rings
- Metal Plating
- Natural Products:
  - Ash
  - Loam
  - Clay
  - Sand
- Photographic Color Developer
- Printing Inks
- Skin Care Products:
  - Anti-aging serum
  - Bar soap
  - Facial cleanser and scrub
- Surgical Use:
  - Chromic surgical gut sutures
- Textile Dyes (darks, greens)
- Tools Made of Steel
- Treated Leather and Fur:
  - Belts
  - Clothing
  - Shoes
  - Butan 129 chrome leather tanning agent
  - Handbags
  - Watch bands
- Wood Preservatives:
  - Chromated copper arsenate wood preservative

\*For additional information about products that might contain **potassium dichromate**, go to the Household Product Database online ([householdproducts.nlm.nih.gov](http://householdproducts.nlm.nih.gov)) at the United States National Library of Medicine. These lists are brief and provide just a few examples. They are not comprehensive. Product formulations also change frequently. Read product labels carefully and talk to your doctor if you have any questions. These are general guidelines. Talk to your doctor for more specific instructions.