



the art and science of smart patch testing™

NA96: Propylene glycol

Patient Information

Your patch test result indicates that you have a contact allergy to propylene glycol. 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 propylene glycol found?

Propylene glycol is used as a softening agent, preservative, humectant, and solvent in cosmetics, fragrances, topical medications, soaps and cleansers, hair care products, and deodorants. Propylene glycol is also found in oral treatments as well as in many foods. It is also added during the manufacture of many industrial fluids, such as solvents, thinners, antifreeze, other de-icing fluids, desiccants, brake fluids, and polyester resins.

How can you avoid contact with propylene glycol?

Avoid products that list the following in the ingredients:

- Propylene glycol
- 1,2-Propanediol
- 1,2-Dihydroxypropane
- 2-Hydroxypropanol
- EINECS 200-338-0
- EPA Pesticide Chemical Code 068603
- Isopropylene glycol
- Methylene glycol

What are some products that may contain propylene glycol?

Antiperspirants and Deodorants

Auto Care

Cosmetics

Creams and Lotions

Foods

Hair Care

Household Cleaners

Lozenges

Mascaras

Oral Care

Paints, Stains, Enamels and Sealers

Pet Care

Shave Creams, Gel

Soaps and Cleansers

Sunscreens

Topical Medications

Wipes

Yard Care

Detergents

*For additional information about products that might contain **propylene glycol**, go to the Household Product Database online (<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.