

NA55: Propylene Glycol

CAS#: 57-55-6

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, humectants, 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 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 any of the following names in the ingredients:

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

What are some products that may contain propylene glycol?

- Antiperspirants and Deodorants
- Auto Care:
 - Cooling systems
 - De-icer
 - Glycolized air sanitizer
 - Leather care
- Cosmetics:
 - Anti-aging treatment
 - Eye shadow
 - Liquid makeup
- Body Creams and Lotions
- Foods:
 - Avocado
 - Donuts
 - Marinating sauces
 - Tartar sauce
- Hair Care:
 - Conditioner
 - Hairspray
 - Shampoo
- Household Cleaners and Detergents
- Lozenges
- Oral Care:
 - Breath strips
 - Toothpaste
- Mouthwash
- Paints, Stains, Enamels and Sealers
- Pet Care:
 - Pet conditioner
 - Pet shampoo
- Shaving Creams and Gels
- Soaps and Cleansers
- Sunscreens
- Topical Medications:
 - Hydrocortisone anti-itch cream
 - Acne treatment
 - Gels and sprays for athlete's foot
- Hydrocortisone anti-itch cream
- Hemorrhoid cream
- Wet Wipes
- Yard Care:
 - Fungicide
- Tire foam
- Tire foam protectant
- Tire sealant & flat preventative
- Vinyl/rubber cleaner/conditioner
- Concealer
- Lip gloss and lipstick
- Mascara
- Brownies
- Jalapeno sauce
- Salad dressings
- Gel
- Mousse

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