

Patient Information

Epoxy Resin

Your TRUE TEST® indicates that you have a contact allergy to epoxy resin.

Epoxy resin monomer in contact with your skin may result in dermatitis. Epoxy resin is a widely used synthetic resin much used to make certain types of plastics, coatings and adhesives, signified by strong adhesiveness and toughness.

Where is epoxy resin found?

The most common epoxy resin exposure is from 2-component adhesive. Epoxy resin is also found in adhesive tapes, surface coatings, paints, putties and inks. It may be found in encapsulation of electrical parts and in some dental bonding agents.

Epoxy resin can be added to other plastic materials e.g. some vinyl plastic products such as eyeglass frames, vinyl gloves, fiber glass, handbags and plastic necklaces.

Industrially epoxy resin is found in product finishing and repair such as floor, wall, road and bridge coatings, in cement (for quick bonding and strength), appliance finishes, automotive primers and flame-retardant. Reactions may occur through exposure to varnishes, laminates, paints, tool handles, die-castings, model making as well as through materials used by artists and sculptors.

Note: Only epoxy resin, reactive diluents and hardener, the components of uncured epoxy resin systems are allergenic. Cured (hardened) plastic is seldom a problem. Epoxy resin system components can cause airborne contact dermatitis.

How to avoid epoxy resin

If using epoxy resin glues strictly avoid contact with the skin. Be careful with 2-component glues, coatings, fillers and putties. One bag epoxy resin products, which mix in the package, reduce the possibility of skin contact.

Notify your dentist that you are allergic to epoxy resin. Epoxy resin-free bonding agents are available.

Strictly follow the instructions for use of epoxy resins. Epoxy resin can penetrate rubber and plastic gloves, use special gloves approved for epoxy resin exposure (4H-glove). If you are severely allergic, avoid all work with any epoxy resin; replace it with a less sensitizing plastic material if possible.

If you suspect that you are being exposed to this allergen at work, consult your employer regarding Material Safety Data Sheets.

Inform your healthcare providers that you are allergic to epoxy resin.

What to look for

Synonyms for epoxy resin

- Diglycidyl ether of Bisphenol A epoxy resin.
- DGEBA epoxy resin
- Epichlorohydrin (1-chloro-2,3-epoxypropane) (8-chloropropylene oxide)
- 4,4'-Isopropylidenediphenol-epichlorohydrin polymer

The list may not be complete.

When purchasing products which may come in contact with your skin, check the list of ingredients for any of the names listed above. If in doubt contact your pharmacist or physician.

This information does not substitute the information given by your health care providers and can only be seen as a supplement.