



PATIENT INFORMATION LEAFLET: imidazolidinyl urea

Your patch test shows that you have a contact allergy to : imidazolidinyl urea

Synonym(s): Germall 115, imidurea.

Definition: Imidazolidinyl urea is an antimicrobial and is primarily used as a preservative; it is a “formaldehyde-releaser”, meaning it releases the preservative “formaldehyde”.

Use and occurrence:

- Skin care products, including cosmetics, moisturizing creams (body lotions), facial day and night creams, hand creams, make-up (mascara, eye shadow etc), wet wipes, shampoos, conditioners, hairdressing products (e.g. hair gel), deodorants, sun protecting creams, self-tanning products, etc.
- Pharmaceutical products (e.g. corticosteroid creams, Cutivate®), moisturizing creams and lotions, anti-dandruff products (e.g. Nizoral®), massage creams, ultrasound gels, antimicrobial hand washes, etc.
- Household products and detergents.
- Pet cosmetics (including shampoos).
- Industrial products such as paints, cutting oils and cooling fluids.

Remarks:

- Patients allergic to imidazolidinyl urea may also be allergic to diazolidinyl urea, a chemically related compound.
- Patients allergic to imidazolidinyl urea are often also allergic to formaldehyde, although isolated allergy to imidazolidinyl urea may occur.
- If one is allergic to formaldehyde, then “formaldehyde-releasers” should be avoided, including, besides imidazolidinyl urea, diazolidinyl urea (Germal II), bromonitropropanediol (bronopol), quaternium-15 (Dowicil 200), sodium hydroxymethylglycinate, DMDM hydantoin and Grotan BK®.
- Beware: imidazolidinyl urea is sometimes used in (self-proclaimed) “hypoallergenic” cosmetics!

Disclaimer: Always check your products as these lists can never be complete and ingredients change.