Patient Information

Your patch test result indicates that you have a contact allergy to 4-chloro-3-cresol. 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 4-chloro-3-cresol (PCMC) found?

4-chloro-3-cresol is used as a disinfectant and preservative found in creams, shampoos, antiseptics, disinfectants, and fungicides.

How can you avoid contact with 4-chloro-3-cresol (PCMC)?

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

- 2-Chloro-5-hydroxytoluene
- 3-Methyl-4-chlorophenol
- 4-Chloro-3-methylphenol
- 4-Chloro-m-cresol
- 6-Chloro-m-cresol
- Aiptal
- Baktol
- CCRIS 1938
- Candaseptic
- Chlorocresol
- Chloro-3-cresol
- Chlororesol
- Chlorocresol [INN-Latin]
- Chlorokresol
- Chlorocresol [INN-Spanish]
- Chlorocresolo
- EINECS 200-431-6
- 064206
- NSC 4166
- PCMC
- Parmetol
- Peritonan
- Phenol, 4-chloro-3-methyl-
- RCRA waste number U039
- Raschit K
- p-Chlor-m-cresol
- p-Chlorocresol
- 4-Chloro-1-hydroxy-3-methylbenzene
- 4-06-00-02064 (Beilstein Handbook Reference)

What are some products that may contain 4-chloro-3-cresol (PCMC)?

- Cosmetics
- Creams
- Household Products:
  - Adhesives and glues
  - Cooling fluids
  - Corticosteroid creams
  - Inks
  - Metalworking fluids
  - Packing materials
  - Paints
  - Textile finishes
  - Varnishes
- Tanning Agents
- Topical Antiseptics and Disinfectants

*For additional information about products that might contain 4-chloro-3-cresol (PCMC), 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.