Patient Information

Your patch test result indicates that you have a contact allergy to 4-tert-butylphenol formaldehyde resin. 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-tert-butylphenol formaldehyde resin found?

4-tert-butylphenol formaldehyde resin is an adhesive commonly used to bond leather, rubber to rubber, or rubber to metal surfaces. It is principally found in glued leather goods such as shoes, handbags, belts, and watch straps. It is a common cause of shoe allergic contact dermatitis.

How can you avoid contact with 4-tert-butylphenol formaldehyde resin?

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

- 4-(1,1-Dimethylethyl)phenol, formaldehyde polymer
- Formaldehyde, p-tert-butylphenol polymer
- Paraformaldehyde, formaldehyde, p-tert-butylphenol polymer
- p-tert-Butylphenol formaldehyde resin
- PTBP formaldehyde
- Butylphen
- Paratertiary butylphenol formaldehyde resin
- p-t-Butylphenol formaldehyde resin

What are some products that may contain 4-tert-butylphenol formaldehyde resin?

- Adhesive on Electrocardiograph Monitoring Electrodes
- Automobile Components:
  - Some motor oils
  - Upholstery
- Boxes
- Deodorants
- Diapers
- Disinfectants
- Duplicating Paper
- Fiberglass
- Film Developers
- Furniture
- Glues for Fabric and Upholstered Furniture
- Glued Rubber and Leather Goods:
  - Belts
  - Handbags
  - Hats
  - Shoes
  - Watchbands
- Ink
- Insecticides
- Insulation
- Medical Products:
  - Athletic tape
  - Brace (knee)
  - Dental bonding materials
- Nail Adhesives
- Plywood
- Polychloroprene Adhesives
- Prosthesis
- Resins:
  - Thermosetting resins for contact cements and metal coatings
- Surface Coatings, Varnishes and Inks

*For additional information about products that might contain 4-tert-butylphenol formaldehyde resin, 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.