Patient Information

Your patch test result indicates that you have a contact allergy to cinnamic aldehyde. 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 cinnamic aldehyde found?

Cinnamic aldehyde is the chemical compound that gives cinnamon its flavor and odor. Cinnamic aldehyde occurs naturally in the bark of cinnamon, camphor, and cassia trees. These trees are the natural source of cinnamon, and the essential oil of cinnamon bark is about 90% cinnamic aldehyde. It is used as a flavoring in food items like chewing gum, ice cream, candy, and beverages and in some perfumes of natural, sweet, or fruity scents. Cinnamic aldehyde is also sometimes used as a fungicide and its scent is known to repel animals like cats and dogs.

How can you avoid contact with cinnamic aldehyde?

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

- 2-Propenal, 3-phenyl-
- 3-Phenylacrolein
- 3-Phenylpropenal
- BRN 0605737
- CCRIS 6222
- Caswell No. 221A
- Cinnamic aldehyde
- Cinnamaldehyde
- FEMA No. 2286
- NCI-C56111
- 2-07-00-00273 (Beilstein Handbook Reference)
- EPA Pesticide Chemical Code 040506
- 3-Phenyl-2-propenaldehyde
- 3-Phenylacrylaldehyde
- AI3-00473
- Benzylideneacetaldehyde
- Cassia aldehyde
- Cinnamal
- Cinnamylaldehyde
- EINECS 203-213-9
- HSDB 209
- NSC 16935

What are some products that may contain cinnamic aldehyde?

- Corrosion Inhibitor
- Food Flavoring:
  - Beverages: Cola, Vermuth
  - Chewing gum
  - Candy
  - Ice cream
- Fragrances (Natural, Sweet, or Fruity Scents):
  - Almond
  - Apricot
  - Butterscotch
- Fungicide:
  - Root treatment
- Insecticide
- Personal Care Products:
  - Dental floss
  - Mouthwash
  - Oral anaesthetics
  - Toothpastes
- Pet Care Products:
  - Dog and cat repellent
  - Deodorizing cleaner
  - Deodorizing shampoo
  - Cat box additive

*For additional information about products that might contain cinnamic aldehyde, 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.*