NA21: Cobalt (II) Chloride Hexahydrate
CAS#: 7791-13-1

Patient Information
Your patch test result indicates that you have a contact allergy to cobalt (II) chloride hexahydrate. 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 cobalt (II) chloride hexahydrate found?
Cobalt (II) chloride hexahydrate is a metal used with other metals to make metal alloys. Because cobalt and nickel can be found in many of the same metal products, allergies to both metals can develop. To prevent this, consider wearing jewelry made of sterling silver or other precious metals, rather than costume jewelry. Cobalt is frequently combined with nickel, and this may explain the fact that cosensitivity to these two metals is common. Nickel-plated objects are reported to be the most common exposure.

How can you avoid contact with cobalt (II) chloride hexahydrate?
Avoid products that list any of the following names in the ingredients:
• CCRIS 7729
• Cobalt chloride hexahydrate
• Cobalt dichloride hexahydrate
• Cobalt(II) chloride hexahydrate
• Cobaltous chloride, hexahydrate
• Cobalt

What are some products that may contain cobalt (II) chloride hexahydrate?
• Artificial Joint Replacements
• Bricks and Cement
• Ceramic Paints (Blue Colors)
• Clothing Fasteners:
  – Buckles
  – Buttons
  – Hooks
  – Pins
  – Rivets
  – Snaps
  – Zippers
• Cosmetics:
  – Eyeshadow
• Household Tools and Utensils
• Hair Ornaments
• Jewelry
• Keys
• Magnets
• Orthopedic and Dental Implants and Dental Prosthesis
• Paints/Enamels/Finishes (Blue Colors)
• Pottery Glazes (Blue Colors)
• Printing Inks
• Spray Paint (Blue Colors)
• Vitamin B12 Supplements
• Wood Stains

*For additional information about products that might contain cobalt (II) chloride hexahydrate, 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.