NA57: Sesquiterpene Lactone Mix

Patient Information

Your patch test result indicates that you have a contact allergy to sesquiterpene lactone mix. 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 sesquiterpene lactone mix found?
Sesquiterpene lactone is found in many plants from the Composite or Asteraceae family-(AKA daisy, aster or sunflower family). Sesquiterpene lactone mix contains alantolactone, dehydrocostus lactone, and costunolide. Patients allergic to sesquiterpene lactone mix may react to the plant or pollen, as well as cosmetics, ointments, creams, lotions, and topical medicaments that use these plant extracts.

How can you avoid contact with sesquiterpene lactone mix?
Avoid products that list any of the following names in the ingredients:
- Alantolactone
- CAS RN: 546-43-0
- EINECS 208-899-3
- Costunolide
- Costus Lactone
- CAS RN: 553-21-9
- Dehydrocostus Lactone
- Dehydrocostus Lactone
- CAS RN: 477-43-0

What are some products that may contain sesquiterpene lactone mix?
- Cosmetics
- Creams and Lotions
- Herbal Supplements
- Plants from the Composite family:
  - Arnica
  - Bitterweed
  - Broomweed
  - Capeweed
  - Champa of perfumery
  - Chrysanthemum
  - Cosmos
  - Cotton thistle
  - Feverfew
  - Fleabane
  - Hampweed
  - Laurel
  - Lettuce
  - Marguerite
  - Marsh elder
  - Oxeye
  - Pyrethrum
  - Sagebrush
  - Sow thistle
  - Stinkwort
  - Tansy
  - Whitewood of commerce
- Teas
- Topical Medicaments

*For additional information about products that might contain sesquiterpene lactone mix, 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.