

DM228 / MC254: Gold Sodium Thiosulfate

Patient Information

Your patch test result indicates that you have a contact allergy to gold sodium thiosulfate. 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 gold sodium thiosulfate or gold found?

Gold sodium thiosulfate is a fairly common sensitizer with elicitation of symptoms linked to gold in jewelry, occupational exposure to gold, dental restorations, gold-plated intracoronary stents and previous rheumatoid arthritis treatment.

How can you avoid contact with gold sodium thiosulfate or gold?

- Check all gold-appearing jewelry for a stamp that indicates the purity (1-999 or .1-.999) or the karat (10K, 14K, 18K, 22K, or 24K). Also avoid all gold-plated jewelry.
- Inform your healthcare providers, including dental providers, that you are allergic to gold sodium thiosulfate. Ask that they use products free from this allergen. Gold filling does NOT need to be removed unless significant oral disease is present and associated with a positive patch test.

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

- Gold sodium thiosulfate
- Thiosulfuric acid, gold(1+) sodium salt (2:1:3)
- Gold sodium thiosulfate
- Gold trisodium bis(thiosulphate)
- Thiosulfuric acid ($H_2S_2O_3$), gold(1+) sodium salt (2:1:3)

What are some products that may contain gold sodium thiosulfate or gold?

- Electronics
- Gold-plating processes
- Medical and dental devices or implants
- Gold or gold-plated jewelry
- Rheumatoid arthritis treatment
- Dental restorations
- Gold-plated intracoronary stents

*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.