

NA11: Bacitracin

CAS#: 1405-87-4

Patient Information

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

Bacitracin is an antibiotic used for postoperative and general wound care and is considered a frequent sensitizer. Bacitracin is often a first-line topical remedy for virtually all cutaneous injuries and dermatoses as well as for many eye and ear disorders in the U.S. As bacitracin zinc salt, and in combination with other topical antibiotics (usually polymyxin B and neomycin), it is used in ointment form for topical treatment of a variety of localized skin and eye infections, as well as for the prevention of wound infections. It is also commonly used as an aftercare antibiotic on tattoos. In infants, it is sometimes administered intramuscularly for the treatment of pneumonias. It is also a common component of animal feed.

How can you avoid contact with bacitracin?

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

- Bacitracin
- Bacitracin zinc salt
- EINECS 215-786-2
- HSDB 6418
- Mycitracin
- USAF CB-7

What are some products that may contain bacitracin?

- Antibacterial Creams
- Antibiotic Ointments
- Eye Drops
- Infant Use
- Topical Creams

*For additional information about products that might contain **bacitracin**, 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.