

Allergic contact dermatitis from furaltadone in eardrops

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Key words: furaltadone; neomycin; eardrops; medicaments; allergic contact dermatitis; antibiotics. © Munksgaard, 1999.

Case Report

A 70-year-old housekeeper, with a previous history of chronic irritant contact dermatitis on the hands, had been diagnosed as having seborrheic dermatitis in the ear canal 1 year ago. She had applied several topical medicaments, including Panotile[®] eardrops, with remissions and relapses. Suddenly, 4 weeks before presentation, she developed worsening itchy erythematous vesicular dermatitis in the right ear canal and on the ear. She stopped topical therapy with Panotile[®] eardrops, with clearance of the lesions within a week.

The GEIDC standard series, Panotile[®], and its excipients (Table 1) showed positive patch test reactions (++) at 2 and 4 days to Panotile[®], and its active ingredients furaltadone chlorhydrate 1% pet. and neomycin sulfate

20% pet. Patch tests with furaltadone chlorhydrate 1% pet. in 20 controls were negative.

Discussion

Furaltadone is an odourless yellow crystalline antibiotic powder, with a pH between 5 and 7, its chemical name being 5-morpholinomethyl-3-(5-nitrofurfurylideneamino)oxazolidin-2-one (1). It is used in veterinary practice (2), is frequently added to animal feed (2), and is also present in certain eardrops (3).

The only previous report of allergic contact dermatitis from furaltadone was from its tartrate in animal feed (4). Though sensitivity to neomycin is common (5), we have found no reference to allergic contact dermatitis due to eardrops containing furaltadone.

Table 1. Panotile[®] eardrops composition/ml

lidocaine	40 mg
furaltadone chlorhydrate	4.5 mg
neomycin sulfate	3.5 mg
fludrocortisone acetate	1 mg
polymyxin B sulfate	10,000 IU
excipients:	
glycerin	
propylene glycol	
benzalkonium chloride	
distilled water	

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Airborne photocontact dermatitis due to the pesticides maneb and fenitrothion

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Key words: maneb; fenitrothion; pesticides; fungicides; insecticides; photodermatitis; occupational; agriculture. © Munksgaard, 1999.

Case Report

A 53-year-old woman presented with a 4-month history of facial erythema extending to the neck. She felt itching while working in the paddy field where her husband had sprayed pesticides just before. Initial erythema on the upper eyelids had spread to the entire face and neck.

Patch testing was performed with the 2 pesticides that her husband used. She showed no reaction to either maneb 0.01% aq. or fenitrothion 0.01% aq. at 2 and 3 days. However, she had a positive (+) reaction (ICDRG criteria) to both maneb 0.01% aq. and fenitrothion 0.01% aq. on photopatch testing with 8.7 J/cm² UVA radiation.

Because contact photoallergy due to maneb and fenitrothion was suspected, she stopped helping her husband in the paddy field with resultant disappearance of the dermatitis.

Discussion

Maneb is a fungicide of the carbamate group: manganese ethylene-bisdithiocarbamate. Fenitrothion is an insecticide acting as a cholinesterase inhibitor. Both are widely used in Japan. In a large Japanese study (1), farmers with contact dermatitis underwent patch tests with various pesticides: 8.1% had positive reactions to maneb 0.186% pet. and 10.9% were positive to fenitrothion 0.1% pet. (1).

In Italy, Lisi et al. (2) reported a similar study in which a pesticide series of 36 substances was patch tested in 652 subjects. Allergic reactions to fungicides were found in 46 subjects, and thiophthalimides (captan, folpet and difolatan) were the most common sensitizers. Maneb was allergic in only 3 subjects (0.5%). Fenitrothion was not incorporated in their study, which did not include photopatch testing (2).

The patient in our case developed the eruption in June, a rainy season in Japan. Another fungicide, Daconil®, was reported as causing photoallergic contact dermatitis only from spring to summer in a gardener in southern Japan (3). Hence, hot humid Japanese weather during the summer may enable a sprayed pesticide to

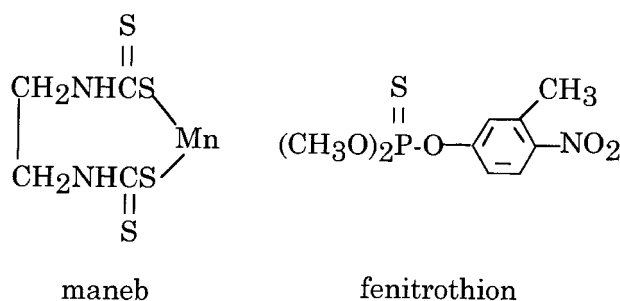


Fig. 1. Chemical structures of maneb and fenitrothion.

remain in the air for a long period and to contaminate exposed sweaty skin.

Although our patient had photoallergic reactions to both maneb and fenitrothion, the compounds have entirely different chemical structures (Fig. 1).

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Occupational dermatitis in Sheffield: a preliminary study

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Key words: occupational; allergic contact dermatitis; irritant contact dermatitis; nickel sulfate; carba mix; thiuram mix; potassium dichromate; fragrance mix; metalworking. © Munksgaard, 1999.

We set out to determine the frequency of occupational dermatitis in patients attending a contact dermatitis clinic, those occupations most at risk and the most common causative allergens.

Patients and Methods

All patients attending a contact dermatitis clinic over a 3-year period (1994–1996) were included, the data being collected on a computerized database. Whether or not a dermatitis was occupational was decided after patch testing. Allergic contact dermatitis was diagnosed if a relevant allergen was demonstrated, irritant contact dermatitis if irritant exposure was thought to predominate. The importance of irritants may therefore be underplayed. Both allergic and irritant factors were felt to be equally important in a few cases.

Results

Of 1153 patients, 192 (17%) were diagnosed as having occupational dermatitis. The 6 most common occupations were: metal processing (26), nursing (15), catering (13), hairdressing (11), cleaning (9), and shop work (9). The commonest sites were the hands (82%), arms (18%), face and neck (16%) and legs (10%). In some, the eruption was at more than 1 site. 83 patients (43%) had a personal history of atopy (i.e., allergic rhinitis, asthma or atopic dermatitis). A final diagnosis of irritant contact dermatitis was made in 102 (53%), and of allergic contact dermatitis in 90 (47%). 11 (6%) had both (included in both groups). The most common relevant allergens were: nickel sulfate 38 (20%), thiuram mix 26 (14%), fragrance mix 17 (9%), potassium dichromate 12 (6%) and carba mix 10 (5%).