colder, damper Irish climate! In all cases the dermatitis cleared up very quickly, in 1 or 2 weeks, on removal from the diallylglycol carbonate.

Reference

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Colophony sensitivity in dentistry

T. A. J. Dawson

Craigavon Area Hospital, Northern Ireland

A male aged 17 years had suffered from an eczematous rash on the fingers and to a lesser extent on the face for 1 year. He had been training as a dental mechanic for 2 years and had not previously had any skin trouble. The lesions improved when he was away from work.

Patch testing with the ICDRG European standard battery produced a ++ result to colophony. Patch tests with samples of the patient's work materials produced a ++ result to a compound used for taking dental impressions and a + to a material used for polishing plastic.

Enquiries within the manufacturing industry confirmed that the dental impression compound contains approximately 10 % colophony. It seems likely that the polish to which the patient reacted also contains colophony, though this could not be positively confirmed.

Allergic reactions to ammonium persulphate in hair bleach

Lena Widström

Department of Dermatology, Regional Hospital, S-701 85 Örebro, Sweden

Allergic reactions mainly of the immediate type, but also of the delayed type, to ammonium persulphate in hair bleach have been described by a number of authors. A new case exhibiting both the immediate and delayed types of reaction is reported here.

A 23-year-old ladies' hairdresser has been working professionally since 1970. She had atopic eczema in childhood, but no skin trouble since then until she started work as a hairdresser. Eczematous changes appeared on the hands, related to her work. When hair bleach was used, the trouble was specially pronounced with acute pruritis and rashes on on the hands and forearms, together with sneezing and rhinitis. The bleach used by the patient in her work is stated by the manufacturer to contain inorganic persulphate.

A patch test with the European standard series showed a positive reaction to formalin but was otherwise negative. Some of the preparations she used contain formalin. Although she has ceased to use these, the skin and mucous membrane trouble persists. An open test with a 5 % aqueous ammonium persulphate solution rubbed into the skin produced a slight reddening and pruritis after 20 min. A scratch test with a 1 % aqueous solution of ammonium persulphate produced erythema and wheal information after 5 min. A closed patch test with a 2 % aqueous solution of ammonium persulphate was positive after 72 h. The patient also reports that she had a rash on her body and a general feeling of illness the day after the test application.

References

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