

Reply

Palladium allergy prevalence might be underestimated because of an inadequate test allergen

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Dear Sir,

Muris et al. have convincingly shown that sodium tetrachloropalladate ($\text{Na}_2[\text{PdCl}_4]$) may be superior to palladium dichloride (PdCl_2) for patch testing of patients for palladium allergy (1). This is important new information for patch testers, as palladium chloride may need to be replaced with tetrachloropalladate in our test series. In light of this, we recently recommended using tetrachloropalladate and not palladium chloride for

the diagnostic work-up of patients suspected of having metal allergy following implantation (2). However, in a recent non-systematic review on palladium allergy, we focused on palladium exposure, the clinical symptoms of palladium allergy, and the epidemiology over time, as illustrated by the title of the review (3). Thus, we did not focus on the ideal patch test salt, and did not include the study by Muris et al. (1). However, we acknowledge the importance of the results from the Dutch group.

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Conflicts of interest: The authors have declared no conflicts.

References

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- 2 Thyssen J P, Menné T, Schalock P C, Taylor J S, Maibach H I. Pragmatic approach to the clinical work-up of patients with putative allergic disease to metallic orthopaedic implants before and after surgery. *Br J Dermatol* 2011; **164**: 473–478.
- 3 Faurschou A, Menné T, Johansen J D, Thyssen J P. Metal allergen of the 21st century – a review on exposure, epidemiology and clinical manifestations of palladium allergy. *Contact Dermatitis* 2011; **64**: 185–195.