

edge, our case is the first report of an allergic contact dermatitis to topical tribenoside in the English literature.

Case Report

A 25-year-old woman complained of erythema and itching around her anus. She had applied tribenoside (Boraza[®] G ointment; Amato Pharmaceutical Products, Ltd, Osaka, Japan) for 2 weeks for treatment of haemorrhoids. We suspected allergic contact dermatitis caused by the ointment. Therefore, patch testing was performed using the baseline series of the Japanese Contact Dermatitis Society and Boraza G ointment. The results were assessed after 2 and 3 days according to International Contact Dermatitis Research Group guidelines. A positive reaction occurred with the Boraza G ointment (as is, +++), and *Myroxylon pereirae* (25% pet., +). Further patch testing was carried out with ingredients of Boraza G ointment provided by the manufacturer. Positive reactions occurred with tribenoside (1% pet., +++, and 5% pet., +++), which is the chief ingredient of Boraza G ointment. Patch testing with tribenoside (1% and 5% pet.) in three control subjects was negative. On the basis of the patient's clinical history and the results of the patch tests, we made a diagnosis of allergic contact dermatitis to tribenoside. We recommended that the patient should avoid contact with tribenoside, and there has been no recurrence of her problem.

Allergic contact dermatitis caused by tribenoside

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Tribenoside is a drug used for the symptomatic improvement of haemorrhoids and can be taken orally, topically, or as a suppository and is used in more than 20 countries (1, 2). Despite the widespread use of the drug, there are only two reports of a drug allergy caused by oral administration of tribenoside (2, 3). To the best of our knowl-

Discussion

Tribenoside (ethyl-3,5,6-tri-*O*-benzyl-D-glucofuranoside, CAS 10310-32-4) is described as a vasoprotective substance (1) with a variety of properties including anti-inflammatory and mild analgesic effects (2). It is widely used as Glyvenol[®] or Procto-Glyvenol[®] (both from Novartis Farmaceutica, Mexico, Mexico) in over 20 countries, including Switzerland, France, Italy, and Japan (1, 2). Tribenoside is excreted as benzoic acid, and this has been suggested to be the antigenic determinant (4). A positive reaction to *M. pereirae*, in which benzoic acid is an allergen (5), may suggest cross-reactivity.

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