

labelling legislation, the colophony component of lipstick pigment may be missed.

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Allergic contact dermatitis due to diethyl sebacate

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Case Reports

A 24-year-old woman was prescribed Atolant[®] cream for tinea pedis and Atolant[®] lotion for tinea unguium. After 3 months, by which time she had used 80 ml of Atolant[®] lotion, her toes became swollen, with itchy erythema. On patch testing, Atolant[®] lotion was positive, while Atolant[®] cream, which did not contain diethyl sebacate, was negative. Among the ingredients of Atolant[®] lotion, only diethyl sebacate, one of the vehicle components, was positive (Table 1, Fig. 1). Diethyl seba-

cate 30% eth. was patch tested in 30 more patients, as controls, but none were positive.

The lesion disappeared after applying topical corticosteroid (difluprednate) ointment for 4 days. The tinea was treated with another antimycotic (amorolfine hydrochloride) cream, which was negative on patch testing, and has now improved.

Discussion

Diethyl sebacate is added to Atolant[®] lotion to facilitate penetration and add viscosity. 2 former cases reported by Schneider were caused by 20% diethyl sebacate in the product. Atolant[®] lotion contains 30% diethyl sebacate. Schneider noted as early as 1980 that this substance was no longer produced in Germany, except for laboratory purposes. However, it is still used in Japan for medical purposes, as noted above, or added to cosmetics in order to improve their feel, add more emolliency, mix their components better, or stabilize fragrances, though it is not allowed to be added to food. Our case is the 3rd of allergic contact dermatitis from diethyl sebacate, and the 1st reported in Japan.

References

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Table 1. Patch test results

	D2	D7
Atolant [®] lotion	+	+
Atolant [®] cream	–	–
diethyl sebacate 30% eth.	+	+
ethanol	–	–
other components of Atolant [®] lotion	–	–

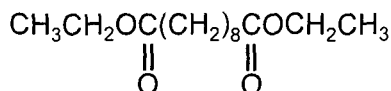


Fig. 1. Diethyl sebacate.

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