CONTACT DERMATITIS INSTITUTE™

METHYL METHACRYLATE

Your patch test result indicates that you have a contact allergy to methyl methacrylate. This contact allergy may cause your skin to react when it is exposed to this substance although it may take several days for the symptoms to appear. Typical symptoms include redness, swelling, itching and fluid-filled blisters.

Where is methyl methacrylate found?

Methyl methacrylate is used in the manufacture of plastics with an acrylic resin base. It may be used in the automotive industry coatings and sealants, in leather, paper and textile surface treatments, in acrylate adhesives, and in latex paints, lacquers, and enamel resins. This substance is also used in healthcare as bone cement, and in dental materials such as crowns, veneers and fillings. It is also used in artificial fingernail adhesive.

How can you avoid contact with methyl methacrylate?

Avoid products that list any of the following names in the ingredients:

- Methylmethacrylate
- 2-Methylacrylic acid, methyl ester
- Acrylic acid, 2-methyl-, methyl ester
- MMA
- Methacrylic acid, methyl ester
- Methyl 2-methyl-2-propenoate
- 2-Propenoic acid, 2-methyl-, methyl ester
- CAS RN: 80-62-6

What are some products that may contain methyl methacrylate?

Acrylate adhesives

Artificial fingernail adhesive

Automotive coatings and sealants

Bone cement

Dental materials:
- Crowns
- Veneers
- Fillings

Enamel resins

Hearing Aids

Lacquers

Latex paints

Leather goods:
- Belts
- Handbags
- Shoes
- Watch bands

Treated paper and textiles

For additional information about products that might contain methyl methacrylate, go to the Household Product Database online (http:/householdproducts.nlm.nih.gov) at the United States National Library of Medicine. These lists are brief and provide just a few examples. They are not comprehensive. Product formulations also change frequently. Read product labels carefully and talk to your doctor if you have any questions. These are general guidelines. Talk to your doctor for more specific instructions.