Bisphenol A epoxy resin

Your patch test results indicate that you have a contact allergy to epoxy resin. 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 epoxy resin found?

Epoxy is a synthetic resin that uses two chemical components (typically diglycidyl ethers and a combination of bisphenol A and epichlorohydrin) to harden or cure. Epoxy resins can be made flexible or rigid, transparent or opaque, fast-setting or slow-setting and are extremely heat and chemical resistant making them ideal for many industrial applications- plastics manufacturing, casting resins, composite and fiberglass resins and two-component adhesives, as well as electrical insulating materials. It may be added to paints and varnishes, textile and paper coatings, concrete, mortar and cement, and to embed and prepare histology specimens. It is also used to manufacture many consumer products such as eyeglass frames, handbags, necklaces, and some vinyl gloves. Epoxy resins are frequently used in dentistry as well.

How can you avoid contact with epoxy resin?

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

- Epoxy resin
- Diglycidyl ether of bisphenol A
- 2,2-bis(4-glycidyloxyphenyl)propane
- Bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)dimethylmethane diglycidyl ether
- Bisphenol A diglycidyl ether
- Diglycidyl ether of 2,2-bis(p-hydroxyphenyl)propane
- DGEBA epoxy resin
- Epichlorhydrin
- CAS RN: 25068-38-6

What are some products that may contain epoxy resin?

Art and Sculpture Materials
- Casting Resins:
  - EpoxySystems’ Product #214 Casting Resin
  - Smooth-On Epoxy Casting Compounds

Coated Paper and Textiles
- Concrete, Mortar, Cement:
  - ChemRex Concrete Primer CX85 Resin

Dental Restoratives

Electrical Insulation Materials
- Epoxies:
  - Concreseive Epoxies (2-component)
  - Elmer’s Fiberglass Repair system
  - Elmer’s Superfast epoxy cement epoxy resin compound
  - Elmer’s Wood Repair system
  - Evercoat Everfix Epoxy Resin
  - Evercoat Table Top Epoxy
  - Loctite Metal/Concrete Epoxy
  - Loctite Quick-set Epoxy

Fiberglass
- Flooring, Floor Sealers and Coatings
- Model and Mold Construction
- Protective Finishes, Coverings and Surface Coatings
- Two Component Glues and Adhesives:
  - Scotch SuperStrength Adhesive
- Two Component Paints and Varnishes

Note:
- Epoxies penetrate vinyl and most natural and synthetic rubber gloves. Silver Shield/4H gloves may be used instead to provide protection against epoxy resin (http://www.allerderm.com and http://www.northsafety.com).
- If you are allergic to epoxy resin, you may also react to:
  - Bisphenol A-glycodyl methacry
  - Epoxy resins with diglycidyl ethersol: bisphenol F
  - Tosylamide epoxy resin

For additional information about products that might contain bisphenol A epoxy resin, 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.