

## 13 *p*-tert-Butylphenol Formaldehyde Resin – Patient Information

Your T.R.U.E. TEST results indicate that you have a contact allergy to *p*-tert-butylphenol formaldehyde resin. *p*-tert-butylphenol formaldehyde in contact with your skin may result in dermatitis. 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.

This substance is most commonly found in glues, surface coating and adhesives used in shoes, upholstery, leather and hobbies.

### Where is *p*-tert-butylphenol formaldehyde resin found?



**At work**, you may find *p*-tert-butylphenol formaldehyde resin found:

- Manufacture and use of polychloroprene adhesives
- Manufacture and repair of shoes, especially shoes and components made of rubber
- Adhesive on electrocardiograph monitoring electrodes
- Production of fiberglass and mineral fiber insulation
- Manufacture of construction materials such as laminated wood and plywood products
- Surface coatings, varnishes and inks

It is also used in the automotive industry as a sealant and break lining for cars.



**At home**, you may find *p*-tert-butylphenol formaldehyde resin found:

- Glued rubber and leather goods such as shoes, handbags, watchbands, hats and belts. When shoes get wet, the allergen in these glues is dissolved and comes in contact with the skin
- Glues for fabric and upholstered furniture

It may be included in cosmetics e.g deodorants, lip liner and plastic mail adhesive.

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### How can you avoid *p*-*tert*-butylphenol formaldehyde resin?

- Only use products that do not list *p*-*tert*-butylphenol formaldehyde resin or related chemicals on the label, ingredients list or Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). If there is no information, contact the product manufacturer.
- Avoid the use of waterproof glues in leather and rubber shoes. If you must wear leather or rubber shoes, change socks frequently to prevent exposure through sweat. You may have to replace your shoes that have been soaked by water if your feet develop a rash. Do not have components of shoes reglued by a cobbler.
- Avoid direct skin contact with glued wood or laminated wood products, as well as fiberglass and mineral fiber materials.
- It may also be necessary to avoid duplicating paper and glued fabric materials.
- If you must work with materials that may contain *p*-*tert*-butylphenol formaldehyde resin, wear protective gloves. Heavy-duty chemically resistant gloves may be adequate or good for working with adhesives that contain this resin. When working with finished wood and dry products, use fabric or leather gloves to protect your hands from contacting the resin.
- Tell your physician and pharmacist that you are allergic to *p*-*tert*-butylphenol formaldehyde resin. Ask for products that do not contain *p*-*tert*-butylphenol formaldehyde resin or related substances.
- If you think that you contact *p*-*tert*-butylphenol formaldehyde resin at work, ask your employer for MSDS or manufacturer information on the product(s). Talk to your employer about using a different product or wearing protective gloves and clothing.

### What should you look for and avoid?\*

Avoid products that list any of the following names in the ingredients, MSDS or package insert.

- ***p*-*tert*-Butylphenol formaldehyde** (PTBP) or paraformaldehyde; formaldehyde, *p*-*tert*-butylphenol polymer; *p*-*tert*-butylphenol formaldehyde resin (PTBP FR); formaldehyde, *p*-*tert*-butylphenol polymer; 4-(1,1-cimethylethyl)phenol, formaldehyde polymer

Related substances to which you may react: Neoprene adhesives

### What are some products that may contain *p*-*tert*-butylphenol formaldehyde resin?\*

- HRJ-1367 and HRJ-10416 Thermosetting Resins for contact cements and metal coatings
- Leather and rubber adhesives in the shoe and upholstery industries

### What products may NOT contain *p*-*tert*-butylphenol formaldehyde resin?\*

- Adhesive in 3M™2248 Red Dot™ Paediatric electrode
- Shoes and products made of vinyl (PVC), plastic, silicone, polyurethane, polyethylene or acrylates
- Scanpor® surgical paper tape

\*For additional information about products that might contain *p*-*tert*-butylphenol formaldehyde resin or a related substance, 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 questions. These are general guidelines. Talk to your doctor for more specific instructions.