

Patient Information

Neomycin

Your TRUE TEST[®] indicates that you have a contact allergy to neomycin.

Neomycin in contact with your skin may result in dermatitis. Brief or occasional contact may not pose a problem.

Neomycin is an antibiotic substance.

Where is neomycin found?

Neomycin is a widely used antibiotic for external use and may be found in both prescription and in some countries in over-the-counter medications. Neomycin may be found in topical antibiotic creams, lotions, ointments, powders as well as ear, nose and eye drops for the treatment of infections. It may be used in combination with other antibacterial substances and corticosteroids. Other potential sources of exposure include dental root canal preparations, animal foods, and veterinary products. Neomycin is also used as an antibiotic for internal use e.g. gut disinfection. Neomycin is sometimes used in vaccines.

How to avoid neomycin

Use only ingredient-labeled products that do not list neomycin. Avoid any topical antibiotic preparations that contain neomycin or gentamicin.

Inform your healthcare providers that you are allergic to neomycin. Neomycin preparations are sometimes used topically in surgical wounds. When a topical antibiotic is required, request a suitable safe alternative.

What to look for

Related substances to which you may react

Topical preparations:

- Bacitracin
- Gentamicin sulfate
- Framycetin
- Kanamycin

Injectable Antibiotics (generally not used in pill form):

- Amicain
- Butirosin
- Dibekacin
- Isepamicin
- Ribostamycin
- Sisomycin
- Spectinomycin hydrochloride
- Streptomycin sulfate
- Tobramycin sulfate
- Paromomycin

The lists may not be complete.

When purchasing products which may come in contact with your skin, check the list of ingredients for any of the names listed above. If in doubt contact your pharmacist or physician.

This information does not substitute the information given by your health care providers and can only be seen as a supplement.