

Your TRUE TEST results indicate that you have a contact allergy to disperse blue 106. This contact allergy may cause your skin to react when it is exposed to this substance and related dyes, although it may take several days for the symptoms to appear. Typical symptoms include redness, swelling, itching and fluid-filled blisters.

Disperse blue 106 is a dark blue textile dye found in fabrics colored dark blue, brown, black, purple and some greens. It is frequently found in 100% acetate and 100% polyester fabrics. Some patients with disperse dye allergy also react to para-phenylenediamine.

WHERE IS DISPERSE BLUE 106 FOUND?

At work, you may find disperse blue 106 in or around:

- Fabrics and clothing
- Textiles
- Uniforms

If you suspect you are being exposed to this allergen at work, contact your employer regarding Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS). If you must work with products you know contain disperse dyes, wear protective gloves. Utility or disposable gloves made of natural or synthetic rubber or vinyl are best.

At home, you may find disperse blue 106 in:

- Acetate and polyester fabrics/liners
- Dyed fabrics such as bedding, clothing, nylon stockings, swimming suits, tights, velour
- Children's diapers

HOW CAN YOU AVOID DISPERSE BLUE 106?

- Inform your healthcare providers and your hairdresser that you are allergic to disperse blue 106 and ask that they use products that are free from this allergen.
- Avoid polyester and acetate fabrics and nylon that could be dyed with disperse blue 106.
- Dyes are water soluble, so wash clothing before you wear it the first time to remove excess dye.

Avoidance of textile dyes is difficult because there is no product labeling of the dyes used in the U.S. Furthermore, the correlation between positive patch tests to disperse dyes and presence of those dyes in the garments suspected as causing skin problems is poor.

WHAT SHOULD YOU LOOK FOR AND AVOID?

- Avoid garments made from pure polyester and acetate blends dyed blue or dark colors such as black, brown, green, violet and purple.
- Wear loose fitting clothes if possible.
- Avoid nylon stockings, especially dark colors.
- Levi's[®] 501 blue jeans seldom cause dermatitis in dye-sensitive individuals.
- Wear undyed natural-based fabrics such as silk, cotton, and wool. Clothing should be true white (not off-white) synthetic fabrics.

Note: Another dye, disperse blue 124, is structurally similar to disperse blue 106 and also should be avoided.

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

*These lists are brief and provide just a few examples. Read product labels carefully and talk to your doctor if you have any questions. Product formulations may change from time to time without notice. Talk to your doctor for specific instructions. For additional information about products that might contain **disperse blue 106** or a related substance, go to the Household Products Database online (householdproducts.nlm.nih.gov) at the United States National Library of Medicine.