Information for patients, families and carers

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Patient information on Salicylate Sensitivity (Part I)

Who is this information for?

This information is for patients, families and carers of individuals who have salicylate sensitivity.

What is salicylate sensitivity?

Salicylate is an aspirin-type substance, commonly found in a number of different medications and food additives, and can occur naturally in some food substances. Sensitivity to salicylate can be difficult to diagnose and may result in different medical symptoms.

What symptoms can I have with salicylate sensitivity?

Symptoms may include:

- Urticaria (rash)
- Angioedema (allergic tissue swelling)
- Asthma exacerbation
- Anaphylaxis (in extreme cases)

What substances can you have a sensitivity to if you have salicylate sensitivity?

You may be sensitive to the following substances:

- Aspirin
- Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)
- Some food additives or foodstuffs

What non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) contain salicylates?

Over the Counter	Prescription		
Ibuprofen	Celecoxib	Ketorolac	Naproxen
	Diclofenac	Ketoprofen	Parecoxib
	Etoricoxib	Mefenamic Acid	Piroxicam
	ndomethacin	Meloxicam	Sulindac

What food additives contain salicylates?

Food Dyes	Food Dyes	Food Preservatives	Food Flavourings
E102 Tartrazine	EI23 Amaranth	E210-219 Benzoates	E622-623 Glutamates
E104 Quinoline yellow	EI24 Ponceau 4 R	E220 Sulphur dioxide	
E107 Yellow 2G	EI32 Indigo carmine	E221-227 Sulphites	
E120 Cochineal,	EI27-I80 Other food	E250-251 Nitrites,	

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Carmine	dyes	nitrates	
E122 Carmoisine		E310-312 Gallates	
		E320-321 BHA and	
		BHT	

What is a low salicylate diet?

- Some patients who are sensitive to aspirin and NSAIDs may get symptoms after eating foods that contain salicylates.
- Patients with known aspirin allergy should not automatically avoid foods that contain salicylates.
- Research has shown that most aspirin-sensitive asthmatics are not affected by high salicylate foods.
- A low salicylate diet requires reduction of foods that are high in salicylate.
- If after a month on the diet you feel no difference, recommence a normal diet.
- If after a month you feel a reduction in symptoms, reintroduce some high salicylate foods one at a time, and leave those foods that cause symptoms out of the diet.

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Concerns or questions?

You can contact your ENT Specialist at the Melbourne ENT Group (MEG):

- Phone: 1300- 952-808
- Email: admin@melbentgroup.com.au
- Website: www.melbentgroup.com.au



Your GP is also the best contact for ongoing care and concerns.

Further information

Meniere's Australia (MA) is a national non-profit, non-government organisation that aims to promote and facilitate the development of Australia-wide services and support for those living with Meniere's disease and other vestibular conditions.

www.menieres.org.au



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