

IDEA Workshop on

characterization and categorization of fragrance allergens

September 23-25, 2014

Key conclusions

- Properly conducted patch tests are the gold standard for the clinical detection of contact allergy.
- Positive patch tests are the indication that exposure to a substance is causing contact allergy with a risk of allergic contact dermatitis and should trigger a reevaluation of the risk.
- Epidemiologic evaluation of patch test results allow a comparison of the relative importance of contact allergens in terms of frequency of reaction and indicate contact allergy trends over time.
- Patch test data represent the relevant endpoint in humans and are core data which assist in making decisions for preventive strategies in public health.
- Non-clinical methods including non-animal approaches (e.g. those with OECD guidelines) have the potential to allow for the identification of a contact allergen. However non-animal test systems require further refinement for characterization and categorization.
- The role of genetic factors in susceptibility to contact allergy is yet to be defined.
- Readily accessible product ingredient information including labelling is critical for evaluating exposure, reliable diagnosis and prevention.

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