



the art and science of smart patch testing™

## **NA11: Bacitracin**

**CAS#: 1405-87-4**

### **Patient Information**

Your patch test result indicates that you have a contact allergy to bacitracin. 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.

#### **Where is bacitracin found?**

Bacitracin is an antibiotic used for postoperative and general wound care and is considered a frequent sensitizer. Bacitracin is often a first-line topical remedy for virtually all cutaneous injuries and dermatoses as well as for many eye and ear disorders in the U.S. As bacitracin zinc salt, and in combination with other topical antibiotics (usually polymyxin B and neomycin), it is used in ointment form for topical treatment of a variety of localized skin and eye infections, as well as for the prevention of wound infections. It is also commonly used as an aftercare antibiotic on tattoos. In infants, it is sometimes administered intramuscularly for the treatment of pneumonias. This formulation is sold under the brand name Baciim®. It is also a common component of animal feed.

#### **How can you avoid contact with bacitracin?**

Avoid products that list any of the following names in the ingredients:

- |                        |                    |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| ■ Bacitracin           | ■ EINECS 215-786-2 |
| ■ Mycitracin           | ■ HSDB 6418        |
| ■ Bacitracin zinc salt | ■ USAF CB-7        |

#### **What are some products that may contain bacitracin?**

##### **Antibacterial Creams**

##### **Antibiotic Ointments:**

- Bacitraycin Plus First Aid Antibiotic Maximum Strength Ointment
- Bacitracin Zinc Ointment
- Bactine Antiseptic
- Double antibiotic ointment
- First aid antibiotic ointment
- Neosporin-First Aid Antibiotic Ointment
- Triple antibiotic ointment

## Eye Drops

### Infant Use:

- Pneumonia treatment Baciim

### Topical Creams:

- Christopher's Original Formula Itch Ointment

For patients allergic to bacitracin, several suitable alternatives include:

- Chibroxin ophthalmic solution (norfloxacin)
- Chloramphenicol ophthalmic ointment and solution
- Ciloxan ophthalmic ointment and solution (ciprofloxacin)
- Ciprodex Otic Suspension (ciprofloxacin/dexamethasone; Rx),
- Cipro HC Otic Suspension (ciprofloxacin/hydrocortisone; Rx)
- Erythromycin ophthalmic ointment
- Floxin Otic (ofloxacin; Rx)
- Ocuflax ophthalmic solution (ofloxacin)
- Quixin ophthalmic solution (levofloxacin)
- Sulfacetamide sodium ophthalmic ointment and solution
- Vigamox ophthalmic solution (moxifloxacin)

\*For additional information about products that might contain **bacitracin**, 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 any questions. These are general guidelines. Talk to your doctor for more specific instructions.