

# NEOMYCIN

\_\_\_\_\_ Name

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

## **What is it?**

Neomycin is an antibiotic used in many creams, ointments, powders, eye and ear medicines, bandages, and veterinary products.

## **Where might it be found?**

Antibiotic cream  
Antibiotic ointment  
Triple antibiotic salve  
Bandage or gauze  
Pain relief preparation  
Wound care ointment  
Scar treatment  
Ulcer preparation  
Ear drops  
Swimmer's ear drops  
Eye drops  
Eye ointment  
Nose drops  
Medicated powder  
Dentist root canal filling  
Urinary irrigant  
Pet food  
Veterinary animal feed

*(Some brand names are Neosporin, Cortisporin, Maxitrol, Neocidin, and Otocort.)*

**Note:** Neomycin may remain in clothing even after laundering. Consider discarding items like knit socks, gloves, bras, two-ply garments, or shoes that have been against treated areas. They may harbor the drug and produce continued exposure.

Some people develop sensitivity to *bacitracin* along with their allergy to neomycin, although it is not chemically related. Ask your doctor if you should avoid bacitracin too.

## **How to avoid it:**

Avoid any product that lists **neomycin** as an ingredient. Inspect the label, box, or package insert to find the complete list of ingredients for everything you use on your skin, eyes, or ears. Neomycin is present in many over-the-counter preparations at your drug store and grocery store. It may also be found in prescription products.

**You must tell your doctors, dentist, nurse, and any caretakers about this allergy.** Show them the list of **safe choices below.**

**Your allergy to Neomycin means you could react to certain closely related antibiotics. You could develop a rash all over your body if you are given one of these by mouth or injection. DO NOT USE:**

<b>Tobramycin</b>	<b>Spectinomycin</b>
<b>Gentamicin</b>	<b>Streptomycin</b>
<b>Butirosin</b>	<b>Dihydrostreptomycin</b>
<b>Paromomycin</b>	<b>Netilmicin</b>
<b>Framycetin</b>	<b>Sisomicin</b>
<b>Kanamycin</b>	<b>Ribostamycin</b>
<b>Amikacin</b>	

## **What can you use?**

Your doctor can prescribe a different treatment that is safe for you to use for your infection. Some safe choices, depending on your condition, may include mupirocin (Bactroban), erythromycin (Ilotycin), retapamulin (Altabax), and silver sulfadiazine (Silvadene). Topical sulfonamides, fluoroquinolones, chloramphenicol, and tetracyclines may also be considered. For some problems, your doctor may recommend simply white petrolatum. You may be instructed how to use povidone-iodine, chlorhexidine, hydrogen peroxide, or compresses with aluminum acetate.