You have shown a positive allergic reaction to **Quaternium-15**. You should avoid any contact with this substance. Information about this substance is below.

**What is it?**
Quaternium-15 is a preservative found in a variety of cosmetics, topical pharmaceutical preparations and industrial substances. As a preservative, it has activity against bacteria, fungi and molds.

**How can I avoid it?**
Skin contact with Quaternium-15 is required for it to cause a rash. Discontinuation of exposure to products containing Quaternium-15 should result in improvement and/or resolution of your dermatitis. The most common cause of allergic contact dermatitis from Quaternium-15 is cosmetics preserved with this chemical. By law, all products made in the US for topical use have the ingredients listed either on the product package or the box that contains it, so check the labeling of ingredients in your cosmetics. At work, request a material safety data sheet (MSDS) to help identify potential sources of exposure.

Some individuals who are allergic to formaldehyde are also sensitive to Quaternium-15, since Quaternium-15 releases small amounts of formaldehyde. Quaternium-15 sensitive individuals may need to avoid preserved with formaldehyde or formaldehyde-releasing agents, such as:
- Diazolidinyl urea (Germall II)
- DMDM hydantoin (Glydant)
- Imidazolidinyl urea (Germall)
- 2-bromo-2-nitropropane-1,3-diol (Bronopol)
- Tris nitromethane (Tris Nitro) Tris Nitro is an industrial biocide and is not usually found in skin, hair or cosmetic product

**Uses:**
Quaternium-15 is most frequently found in hair-care products such as conditioners, rinses and shampoos as well as several popular moisturizing lotions and a number of cosmetic products. Other products may include:

- Adhesives and glues, including joint cement and printing pastes
- Construction materials
- Disinfectants
- **Skin Care Products / Cosmetics**
  - Antiperspirants / Deodorants
  - Body powders
  - Eye make-up
    - Liners
    - Shadows
    - mascara
  - Hair sprays, gels, tonics and lotions
  - Hair Colorants / “Permanents-Relaxers”
  - Soaps / Cleansers
  - Shampoos / Conditioners
  - Moisturizers
  - Make-ups, powders, concealers, blushes
  - Make-up removers
  - Shaving products
  - Wipes
  - Sunscreens
- **Medications, topical, prescription and over the counter such as**
  - Anesthetics
  - Antiseptics
  - Contents of Vitamin E capsules used topically
  - Creams, Ointments, Solutions
  - Foot And Other Powders
  - Nasal Decongestants
Traditional Chinese Medications
Wound Dressings
Foot And Other Powders
Nasal Decongestants
Traditional Chinese Medications
Wound Dressings
Cleaning Products, waxes, and polishes
Inks (water based)
Latex paints
Laundry starch
Metalworking fluids
Paper or paperboard
Polyvinyl alcohol
Pressed wood, such as particle board, medium density fiberboard (MDF), plywood, oriented strandboard (OSB)
Pulp and paper
Smoke from charcoal fires, wood, kerosene and coal
Spinning emulsions
Textile finishing solutions
Tobacco and cigarette smoke
Toners

Other names for Quaternium-15:
- 1-(3-chloroallyl)-3,5,7-triaza-1-azoniaadamantane chloride
- Azoniaadamantane chloride
- Chloroallyl methenamine chloride
- Cis-1-(3-chloroallyl)3,5,7-triaza-1-azoniaadamantane chloride
- Dowicil 200
- Dowicil 75, 100, 200 (chemically similar)
- Methanamine-3-chloroallylchloride
- N-(3-chloroallyl) hexaminium chloride
- Preventol D-1
- Formaldehyde
- Imidazolidinyl urea
- Dowco 184
- Dowicide Q
- Hexamethylenetetramine chloroallyl chloride
- 3,5,7-triaza-1-azoniaadamantane
- 1-(3-chloroallyl)-chloride.

Potential cross-reacting/co-reacting substances:
- Bromonitropropanediol
- Diazolidinyl urea
- DMDM Hydantoin
- Imidazolidinyl urea
- Tris nitromethane (Tris Nitro) Tris Nitro is an industrial biocide and is not usually found in skin, hair or cosmetic product
- Sodium Hydroxymethylglycinate

Cross-reactivity among the various quaterniums has not been shown to occur. Follow your doctor’s advice about avoiding all quaterniums.