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PEG That Reaction: A Case Series of Allergy to Polyethylene Glycol

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Why is this article important to you?
Polyethylene glycol (PEG), also known as macrogol, is an excipient in numerous medications, healthcare products, cosmetics and foods. It acts as an inert bulking or stabilizing agent. Despite its ubiquity, which is included in two of the newly launched vaccines against SARS-CoV-2, awareness of PEG allergy remains low. This manuscript presents six cases of acute hypersensitivity to PEG. Accurate diagnoses in these cases posed a challenge, and although the triggering agents differed, PEG was demonstrated as the common culprit. All cases were female with a mean age of 36.4 years. Four patients were originally suspected to have nonsteroid anti-inflammatory drug allergy and two had a history of chronic spontaneous urticaria and angioedema. Biphasic allergic reactions featured prominently in this case series. Diagnosis relies on a high index of suspicion leading to a focused clinical history, supported by skin tests with PEG solutions to demonstrate sensitization. Learners that complete this activity will be able to highlight important clinical features of this rare, potentially serious and increasingly recognized excipient allergy.

Joint Accreditation Statement
In support of improving patient care, the American College of Clinical Pharmacology® (ACCP) is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team.

UAN: JA4008220-0000-21-035-H01-P– ACPE 1 Contact Hours
Activity Type: Knowledge-based **Format:** Home-study **Target Audience**: 'P'

ACCME Designation Statement
The Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education designates this Journal CE activity for 1 *AMA PRA Category 1™* credit. Physicians should only claim credit commensurate with the extent of their participation in the activity.

Target Audience
Interprofessional team of Physicians, Pharmacists and PhDs.

Learning Objectives
After completing this activity, the learner will be able to:

1. Perform a focused allergy history as it may relate to PEG;
2. Initiate treatment for drug-related hypersensitivity reactions;
3. Appreciate the demographics of PEG-related hypersensitivity reactions;
4. Diagnose drug-related hypersensitivity reactions.

Requirements to Receive Credit
In order to receive continuing education credit, the learner must register for the educational activity, study the provided journal article and complete the online learning Post-event Self-assessment, as well as the online course Evaluation and CME/CPE Certificate. Credits and CME/CPE Certificates must be claimed

within thirty (30) days of completing the article, Post-event Self-Assessment and Evaluation. Contact CE@ACCP1.org with any questions.

Disclosures:

Article Selection: Joseph S. Bertino Jr, PharmD, FCP, FCCP, Editor-in-Chief, JCP and Owner, Bertino Consulting LLC. Nothing to disclose.

Planner: Steven R. Tung, MD, JD, Physician Anesthesiologist. Nothing to disclose.

CE Reviewer: Oliver Grundmann, PhD, Clinical Associate Professor, Medicinal Chemistry, Univ of Florida. Nothing to disclose.

Schedule & Fees
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Home Study Initial Release and Expiration Dates
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Helpful Tips
Download the article and access the Self-assessment Post-test, Evaluation and Certificate here.

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