SUMMARY OF:
LATEX ALLERGY IN CHILDREN WITH UROLOGICAL MALFORMATION AND CHRONIC RENAL FAILURE

By: Giuseppina Sparta, Markus J. Kemper, Andreas C. Gerber, Philippe Goetschel and Thomas J. Neuhaus

BACKGROUND
Some children are at risk for latex allergy. These children include those with spina bifida, bladder exstrophy and anorectal abnormality. Children with chronic renal failure (CRF) may be in the higher risk group as they frequently have malformations that require multiple surgeries. A severe anaphylactic event during a surgical procedure of a boy with a transplant in University Children's Hospital (Zurich) cased this study to examine the latex sensitivity/allergy in CRF children.

OVERVIEW
Between 1996 and 2002, eighty-five patients with chronic renal failure, between the ages of 1.3 years and 22.9 years were evaluated for latex sensitivity.

RESULTS
22% (19/85) of the patients had a latex reaction, 58% (11/19) of those showed sensitization to latex with 42% (8/19) showing a clinical allergy. Of the patients suffering latex sensitivity/allergy, 42% suffered urological malformations (within the urological malformations patient group, 33% suffered latex sensitivity/allergy), with a significant correlation between the number of surgery and the latex sensitivity/allergy.

CONCLUSION
Those children with chronic renal failure that require multiple surgeries are at high risk for latex allergy/sensitization. The primary latex prevention such as the use of non-latex gloves should be used in pediatric hospital populations, not limited to those with malformations such as spina bifida, bladder exstrophy and anorectal abnormality, but also in children with urological malformation that may require multiple operations early in life.


This summary is written and provided by Ansell Healthcare LLC. Ansell Healthcare has attempted to summarize the published study as accurately as possible, but makes no representation to the accuracy of the summary. We refer the reader to the actual study for additional information.