

**SUMMARY OF:**  
**LATEX INDUCED ANAPHYLACTIC SHOCK DURING CAESAREAN SECTION:**  
**TWO CASES FROM GUADELOUPE**

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**BACKGROUND**

Over a 5-year period of time, there were 2 cases of anaphylactic shock during a caesarean section linked to latex allergens in Guadeloupe (French West Indies). It was decided to further investigate any further environmental concerns as well as surgical procedures that could impact this reaction.

**OVERVIEW**

The two reported cases of anaphylactic shock occurred during a C-Section as a result of latex. The cause of this incident needed to be further investigated since there was no reported history of latex allergy.

**RESULTS**

The study identifies the further need to investigate that latex sensitivity can be much more frequent due to the presence and contact with the *Hevea brasiliensis* tree and/or tropical fruits. The *Hevea brasiliensis* tree is common to the West Indies.

**CONCLUSION**

The study concluded further investigation needs to occur in tropical overseas countries where further environmental factors might have an effect on latex allergies. Furthermore, this study also identified the cost-effectiveness and need for non-latex on maternity wards. This could lead to withdrawing latex from maternity wards and/ or put proper prevention strategies into place.

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**References** 1. Delaunay et al., Latex induced anaphylactic shock during caesarean section: Two cases from Guadeloupe. *Annales Francaises d'Anesthesie et de Reanimation*. 27 (2008), 1023-1025.

This summary is written and provided by Ansell Healthcare Products 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.