

Objective of IDEA Workshop on Characterization and Categorization (Sept 23-25, 2014)

To lay the foundation for an allergen characterization and categorization procedure which feeds risk management steps towards reduction of allergic contact dermatitis and which can be subject to continuous review, correlation, and improvement.

Definition of a Contact Allergen (Workshop Aug 27-29, 2013)



A contact allergen is a substance that is capable of inducing delayed type sensitization in humans, which may manifest as allergic contact dermatitis.

The elicitation of allergic contact dermatitis requires sufficient exposure and is subject to significant inter-individual variability.

Recommendations from last Workshop (Based on output of break-out groups) (Aug 27-29, 2013)



- While patch test is a proven diagnostic instrument, further research should aim at reducing uncertainties (false positives and negatives)
- Improve categorization of contact allergens (high/low concern) for C&L, RA, and RM
- Improve data collection (e.g. by specific centers) in view of collecting, scrutinizing, and publishing all useful clinical data
- Improve the communication between dermatologists and industry, the main recommendation being to establish a standardized procedure for providing samples to the dermatologists and to communicate results of the clinical observations to industry
- Better understand the difference of prevalence of skin sensitization, which may be caused by specific genetic dispositions and consumer habits (e.g. north versus south of Europe or Europe versus US)

Recommendations from last Workshop ctd



- Provide further justification for the notion that many low dose exposures are more potent than a high single dose
- Better understanding of how best to establish the link between CA and ACD in terms of dose elicitation data.
- Provide in vitro methodologies for risk assessment purposes and, notably, for the quantitative determination of allergens potency
- Consider the development of a new diagnostic tool that might further improve diagnosis of CA for the benefit of the patient
- Define the concept of “levels of concern”
- Develop a definition of product categories (taking into consideration Annex 1 of Cosmetics Regulation, CLP, and IFRA categories)
- Understanding geographical differences in prevalence- for instance US dermatologists at the WS noted that positive patch tests to HICC/HMPCC were quite rarely observed in the US. Differences in exposure are unlikely to explain this.

Task-Forces since Sep. 2013 Workshop



Categorization TF

Communication TF