

SALICYLATE ALLERGY

Salicylates are chemicals found naturally in plants and are a major ingredient of aspirin and other pain-relieving medications. They are also found in many fruits and vegetables, as well as many common health and beauty products.

Some people have a low level of tolerance to salicylates and may have reactions if more than a small amount is consumed at one time. Symptoms of salicylate sensitivity vary but may include:

- Asthma-like symptoms, such as trouble breathing and wheezing
- Headaches
- Nasal congestion
- Changes in skin color
- Itching, skin rash or hives
- Swelling of the hands, feet, and face
- Stomach pain

In severe cases, salicylate sensitivity can lead to anaphylaxis, a life-threatening reaction involving a severe drop in blood pressure, loss of consciousness, and organ system failure.