

DERMATITIS

Dermatitis is a skin condition caused by contact with something that irritates the skin or causes an allergic reaction. It usually occurs where the irritant touches the skin, but not always.

The following are some of the more common causes of irritant and allergic contact dermatitis:

Sometimes the consequences of contact are immediately visible and sometimes contact occurs without apparent effect. However, every contact can cause minute amounts of 'invisible' damage to the skin that can build up until more serious signs are seen.

Symptoms

- Redness
- Scaling / Flaking
- Blistering
- Weeping
- Cracking
- Swelling

Irritant Contact Dermatitis

- Wet Work
- Soaps / Detergents
- Solvents
- Fuel
- Oil and Greases
- Dusts
- Acids and Alkalis

Allergic Contact Dermatitis

- Adhesives
- Wet Cement
- Some Plants
- Some Printing Inks
- Some Foods
- Some Hair Dyes



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What your employer must provide:

- The means to wash your hands, paper towels to dry your hands and suitable creams to use if required.
- Gloves suitable for the task you are undertaking.
- Replacement gloves as required.



What you must do:

- Look after your gloves and wear them.
- Wash any contaminated skin promptly and dry your hands thoroughly.
- Use barrier cream as required.

REPORT ANY SYMPTOMS TO YOUR LINE MANAGER