

**Children's Surgical Specialty Group - Pediatric Surgery**

**Pectus Surgery Metal Patch Testing Guidelines**

The Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters (CHKD) Nuss Center requires selective metal allergy testing for patients who will undergo pectus surgery to minimize the risk of potential bar allergy after surgery. Female patients and those with a personal or first-degree family relative history of metal allergy should be tested for allergies to the metallic components of the implanted surgical stainless steel pectus bar.

The Children's Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Department at CHKD currently uses the allergEAZE® patch test for metal allergy testing. This test requires three office visits: the first visit to place the patches, a second visit 48 hours later to remove patches and give an initial reading, and a third visit 72 hours after patch placement to give a final reading and interpretation. Our surgical nurse can assist you in obtaining these appointments with the Children's Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Department in Norfolk.

If you are not able to schedule allergy testing in Norfolk, information about obtaining the allergEAZE® test is listed below for the reference of your allergist.

Source of the allergEAZE® test:

SmartPractice Canada

Phone number: 1 (866) 903-2671

Address: 2175 29<sup>th</sup> Street NE

Fax number: 1 (866) 903-2672

Unit 90

Email: [www.allergEAZE.com](http://www.allergEAZE.com)

Calgary, AB T147H8

Allergens required for metal testing (based on the current formulation of the pectus bar):

- Nickel Sulfate Hexahydrate 5% (petrolatum) SKU: ST167
- Chromium Chloride 1% (petrolatum) SKU:MC243
- Potassium Dichromate 0.25% (petrolatum) SKU:NA54
- Copper Sulfate 2% (petrolatum) SKU:MC245
- Molybdenum Chloride 0.5% (petrolatum) SKU:MC263
- Manganese Chloride 0.5% (petrolatum) SKU:MG995

If you or your child is allergy tested at an outside institution, please send completed allergy testing results to the CHKD Nuss Center, at (757) 668-8533 (fax); or via email at [pectus@chkd.org](mailto:pectus@chkd.org). The CHKD Nuss Center telephone number is (757) 668-NUSS (6877).

*If your allergist is not able to obtain the allergEAZE® test, the TRUEtest® patch kit is also currently in use at other institutions to detect metal allergy. The CHKD Allergy, Asthma and Immunology clinic recommends use of the allergEAZE® patch test because it tests for allergies to the major and minor metallic components of the pectus bar, whereas the TRUEtest® patch kit only tests for allergies to nickel and chromium.*