

Silicone

Silicones are [polymers](#) that include any inert, synthetic compound made up of repeating units of siloxane, which is a chain of alternating silicon atoms and oxygen atoms, frequently combined with carbon and/or hydrogen. They are typically heat-resistant and rubber-like, and are used in sealants, adhesives, lubricants, medicine, cooking utensils, and thermal and electrical insulation. Some common forms include silicone oil, silicone grease, silicone rubber, silicone resin, and silicone caulk.

Silicones are inorganic compounds that have been used for the purpose of shunting ventricular fluid since the mid-20th century.

[Ventriculoperitoneal shunt complications](#) have rarely been attributed to [silicone](#) allergy, with only a handful of cases reported in literature. The classic presentation of allergy to silicone ventriculoperitoneal shunt, i.e., abdominal pain with recurrent skin breakdown along the shunt tract, is nonspecific and difficult to distinguish clinically from other causes of shunt-related symptoms. It can be diagnosed by detection of antisilicone antibodies and is treated with removal of the shunt and replacement, if needed, with a polyurethane shunt system.

Kurin et al. report the first case of suspected silicone allergy presenting as clinical peritonitis without overt colonic perforation ¹⁾.

Silicone rubber

[Silicone rubber](#)

Silicone catheter

[silicone catheter](#).

Silicone implant

[Silicone implant](#)

¹⁾

Kurin M, Lee K, Gardner P, Fajt M, Umapathy C, Fasanella K. Clinical peritonitis from allergy to silicone ventriculoperitoneal shunt. Clin J Gastroenterol. 2017 Mar 6. doi: 10.1007/s12328-017-0729-0. [Epub ahead of print] PubMed PMID: 28265895.

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