

Dear Rob & Onyx,

Thank you for your questions about the MonaVie blends. There is a very small sub-set of the population that is allergic to Glucosamine. Shellfish are a known allergen and glucosamine is derived from shrimp shells. However, people who are allergic to shellfish are actually allergic to the protein troponin, which is found in the muscle (protein) of shrimp. Analyses do not find any protein in glucosamine that has been derived from shrimp shells. Glucosamine hydrochloride (GHCl), the form of glucosamine used in MonaVie Active Gel and the MonaVie Active Juice, is more than 99 percent pure. When purified properly, GHCl has no allergenicity. GHCl has been tested in a human clinical trial and no reactions were found in persons with known, confirmed shrimp allergies.

To make Glucosamine from shrimp shells, one has to steam them to remove most meat (so it will not putrefy and stink). Next step is to clean the shells with strong, boiling sodium hydroxide (lye) to digest and remove all proteins so they will not come out in the final product (reducing potency and purity). This step alone is sufficient to remove all allergenicity. In fact, sodium hydroxide treatment is the only known way to destroy BSE prions, which shows you how well it works. Next, the purified shells (chitin only now) are dissolved in boiling hydrochloric acid to hydrolyze the chitin (which is a polymer of N-acetyl-D-glucosamine) into D-Glucosamine HCL (the acetyl group is also removed by the boiling acid treatment). After a few washes with alcohol, the GHCL is ready to go at 99+% purity. No protein is left; however since this is a known allergen MonaVie recommends checking with your physician before you consume the MonaVie Active Juice.

I hope this provides you with the information that can answer your questions. Please let me know if there is anything else I can assist you with. Have a great day!

Please contact Distributor Support with further questions.

Regards,

Lance

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