

ALLERGY TESTING INSTRUCTIONS

Antihistamines, prescription and over the counter ones, negatively affect the results of skin tests. These medications and instructions are outlined below. In addition, many over the counter cold and cough medications, acid reducers / medications and eye drops contain medications that act as antihistamines and need to be stopped before skin testing.

If you are not sure medications, please call our office. If these medications are not stopped the required number of days before the appointment, you will not be able to complete the skin testing on the day of appointment. The testing may have to be rescheduled or other options may be considered.

Stop these medications **14 days before** your appointment:

1. Atarax®, Vistaril®, Marax (Hydroxyzine)

Stop these oral antihistamines **4-5 days before** your appointment:

1. Alavert® (Loratadine)
2. Allegra® (Fexofenadine)
3. Clarinex® (Desloratadine)
4. Claritin® (Loratadine)
5. Loratadine (Claritin, Alavert)

Stop these oral antihistamines **4-5 days before** your appointment:

Actifed
Antihist
Astelin®, Astepro (Azelastine) Axid® (nizatidine)
Azatadine (Optimine, Trinalin) Benadryl (Diphenhydramine)
Bromfed
Brompheniramine
Cabinoxamine (Rondec) Chlopheniramine (Chlortrimeton)
Clemastine (Tavist) Cyproheptadine (Periactin) Deconamine
Dimenhydrinate (Dramamine) Dimetapp
Diphenhydramine (Benadryl) Diphenylpyraline (Hispril)
Doxylamine (Bendectin, Nyquil) Drixoral
Dura-tab
Flexeril- ie. Muscle Relaxants, etc. Kronofed

Meclizine (Antivert)Methdilazine HCl (Tacaryl) Naldecone
Novafed-A Ornade Patanase
Pepcid® (famotidine) Phenergan (Promethazine)
Phenindamine (Nolamine, Nolahist)
Pheniramine (Polyhistine D)
Poly-Histine-D
Promethazine HCl (Phenegan) Ppyrilamine (Kronohist,
Rynatan) Rynatan
Tagamet® (cimetidine) Tavist
Trimeprazine (Tamaril) Trinalin
Triprolidine (Actifed)
Valium (Lorazepam, Ativan) ie. Sleeping Pills
Xyzal (Levocetirizine) Zantac® (ranitidine) Zyrtec® (Cetirizine)

If you are taking an oral/nasal antihistamine that is not listed above, **stop** the medicine for **4 days before** your appointment. If you are not sure, please contact our office.

Please inform us if you are on any antidepressants before skin testing. **Do not stop antidepressants** for any reason without checking with your primary care doctor first. If approved by your primary care doctor, **please stop for 2 weeks**. Some antidepressants can also act as antihistamines and will also interfere with skin testing. Examples include: Tricyclic antidepressants: amitriptyline, Elavil, Adapin, Sinequan, Tofranil, Trazadone, etc.

The following medications **need not** be stopped:

Cromolyn (Intal) and Nedocromil (Tilade)
Steroid Nasal Sprays (Beconase, Vancenese, Nasalide, Fluticasone, Nasacort, Beclovent, Vanceril, Aerobid, Azmacort, Pulmicort, Flovent, Qvar, Advair, Qnasl)
Oral Corticosteroids (Prednisone, Medrol)
Pseudoephedrine
Theophylline
Accolate (Zafirlukast), Zflo (Zileuton), Singular (Montelukast) Atrovent (Ipratropium Bromide)-Nasal Spray/Inhaler
SSRI antidepressants: paroxetine - Paxil sertraline - Zoloft fluoxetine - Prozac
citalopram hydrobromide - Celexa
escitalopram - Lexapro venlafaxine - Effexor
Proton Pump Inhibitors: prilosec aciphex protonix prevacid Nexium

Please note: this is not a complete list. Continue to take all your other medications as prescribed. Do not stop any medication without checking with your primary care doctor first. We do control skin tests prior to skin testing to ensure that there are not any interfering medications at the time of testing in your system.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

1. Patients for Allergy Testing must be five (5) years of age or older, except in certain conditions.
2. Asthma must be under control for a least month
3. Prior to your appointment, we will call you to discuss your benefits and any out-of-pocket fees.
4. On the day of your appointment, the patient should wear loose fitting clothes.
5. Plan to arrive 15 minutes early.
6. Plan for a lengthy, comprehensive appointment.
7. Please bring all paperwork, insurance cards, identification and any other items required.
8. If you cannot make your appointment, kindly give us 24-hour advance notice.

ALLERGY TESTING LOCATIONS AND AVAILABILITY:

Allergy testing is offered at the following locations and days:

PENTA – ATLANTA

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday

5461 Meridian Mark Rd., Suite 130
Atlanta, GA 30342

PENTA – ALPHARETTA

Friday

3300 Old Milton Pkwy, Suite 275
Alpharetta, GA 30005

PENTA – WEST COBB / MARIETTA

Wednesday

355 Tower Rd., Suite 201
Marietta, GA 30061

CONTACT INFORMATION

To reach our Patient Care Specialists, **please call (404) 255-2033**.
Phones are not answered at the practice level.

