

Medications which Interfere with Allergy Skin Tests

Some medications contain ingredients that may interfere with allergy skin tests. Check the labels of your medications (including over the counter, eye drops, and nasal sprays) to determine if they contain any ingredient listed below. For questions about ingredients, contact your pharmacist. The medications listed must be held for at least the amount of time indicated before having allergy skin tests.

EYE DROPS, NASAL SPRAYS & time to hold prior to allergy skin tests:

Pataday, Patanol, Optivar, Zaditor, Alaway, Elestat, olopatadine, azelastine, ketotifen **5 days**

Astelin, Astepro, Dymista, Patanase **5 days**

pheniramine (Visine, some other over the counter allergy eye drops) **3 days**

ORAL MEDICATIONS & time to hold prior to allergy skin tests:

Benadryl, diphenhydramine (over the counter allergy, cold, sinus, sleep medicines) **3 days**

Doxylamine, pyrilamine, pheniramine (allergy, cold and sinus medicines) **5 days**

Phenergan, promethazine (cough syrups and anti-nausea) **5 days**

Periactin, cyproheptadine (appetite stimulant and anti-itch) **5 days**

Meclizine, dimenhydrinate, Antivert, Bonine, Dramamine (motion sickness) **3-5 days**

Chlor-Trimeton, chlorpheniramine (allergy, cold, and sinus medicines) **5 days**

Tussionex cough syrup, Tussicaps **5 days**

Zyrtec, Xyzal, Atarax, Vistaril, cetirizine, levocetirizine, hydroxyzine, fexofenadine, Allegra, loratadine, Claritin, Alavert, Clarinex, desloratidine, brompheniramine, Brovex, Lodrane **5 days**

Remeron, mirtazapine (treatment of pain, depression, appetite stimulant) **5 days**

Amitriptyline, Elavil, imipramine, Tofranil, doxepin, Sinequan, Pamelor, nortriptyline **10 days**

If you have been prescribed one of the above medications speak with us or your prescribing physician prior to stopping it. If you feel you cannot stop a medicine because of the severity of your condition or any other reason, continue taking the medication and let the clinic know in advance of your initial visit. In many cases, alternative medications which will not affect skin tests may be provided at the time of your initial clinic visit and skin testing postponed for a subsequent appointment.

If you have any questions about the possible effects of other medications you might be taking on allergy skin tests, please contact the clinic.