

Instructions for patients arriving for an allergy test (skin prick)

A prick test is a basic allergy test that can be performed on patients of all ages to test for atopic, IgE-mediated allergies. However, the test is usually not carried out while the patient is pregnant. The results are immediately visible, but the discovered reactions must be interpreted in relation to the patient's symptoms and medical history. A positive skin reaction does not always mean the patient has an allergy, and a negative result does not rule out allergy.

Please observe the following before the test

Allergy medication may interfere with the test. This is why you are not allowed to take oral antihistamine products or cortisone tablets for 5 days prior to the test. For example, allergy, itching, cold, cough, asthma, and nausea relief medicines can contain antihistamine.

The following are common medicines containing antihistamine:

Aerinaze, Aeriur, Alzyl, Atarax, Benadryl, Ceririzin, Cirrus, Clarinase, Clarityn, Clarityn-S, Codesan comp, Duact, Emadine, Fexofenadine, Gardex, Heinix, Histadin, Histanova, Histec, Kestine, Lastin, Levazyl, Levocetirizin, Livostin, Lomfast, Loratadin, Marzine, Nefoxef, Nosedan, Opatanol, Postafen, Rinomar, Senirex, Telfast, Tuulix, Vertipam, Xyzal, Zaditen, Zyrtec.

The list is not complete and it changes constantly, which is why you should speak to the care staff if you are unsure about a medicine.

Cortisone tablets or cortisone injections can also interfere with the test. Whereas inhaled medicines taken nasally or directly into the lungs do not interfere with the skin prick test.

The test is usually performed on the arm, which is why you should not use any topical medication on the arm for three days before the test.

If you are unsure how to proceed, contact your place of treatment or the testing location.