

Allergy and Immunology



Children's
Physician Group

Medication tips prior to skin testing

These medicines are **OKAY** to take before skin testing:

- Decongestants: Pseudoephedrine, phenylephrine
- Cough medicines: Mucinex, guaifenesin, dextromethorphan
- Acid reflux medicines: Protonix, Prevacid, Nexium, AcipHex, Prilosec, Zegerid, Dexilant, omeprazole, rabeprazole, dexlansoprazole, esomeprazole, pantoprazole
- Asthma medicines: Montelukast (Singulair)

DO NOT STOP using asthma inhalers (controllers and rescue).

DO NOT STOP any nasal sprays that have a corticosteroid. This includes fluticasone (Flonase, Veramyst), flunisolide (Nasarel), Beclomethasone (Beconase AQ), mometasone (Nasonex), triamcinolone acetonide (Nasocort AQ), budesonide (Rhinocort) and ciclesonide (Omnaris).



Certain over the counter and prescription medicines contain ingredients that affect skin tests for allergies. Please check labels of all medicines you are using (including eye drops and nasal sprays) for any medicines that contain the ingredients listed below.

These medicines must be **STOPPED 7 days** before skin testing:

- Eye drops: Pataday, Patanol, Optivar, Zaditor, Alaway, Elestat, olopatadine, azelastine, ketotifen, epinastine, Pheniramine
- Nasal sprays: Astelin, Astepro, azelastine, Patanase, olopatidine, Dymista
- Oral medicines (swallowed):
 - Allergy medicines and nonprescription sleep aids: Benadryl, diphenhydramine
 - Allergy, cold and sinus preparations: Doxylamine, pyrilamine, pheniramine, chlorpheniramine
 - Prescription cough syrups and anti-nausea: Phenergan, promethazine
 - Appetite stimulant and other uses: Periacin, cyproheptadine
 - Motion sickness: Antivert, Bonine, Dramamine; meclizine, dimenhydrinate
 - Nonprescription allergy medicines: Zyrtec, cetirizine, Xyzal, levocetirizine, Claritin, Alavert, loratadine, Clarinex, desloratadine, Allegra, fexofenadine, brovex, brompheniramine
 - Allergy and anti-itch medicines: Atarax, Vistaril, hydroxyzine
 - Pain, depression, appetite stimulant: Remeron, mirtazapine, Flexeril, cyclobenzaprine
 - Tricyclics medicines used for neuralgia and chronically painful conditions: Amitriptyline (Elavil), imipramine (Tofranil), doxepin (Sinequan), nortriptyline

These acid reflux medicines must be **STOPPED 2 days** before skin testing:

- Axid (nizatidine)
- Tagamet (cimetidine)
- Pepcid (famotidine)
- Zantac (ranitidine)

Please call **404-785-KIDS (5437)** to speak with our allergy nurse if you have any questions about whether a medicine should be stopped or if you cannot stop one of the medicines listed above.