

Medications that Interfere with Allergy Skin Tests

Certain over-the-counter prescription medications contain ingredients, which affect allergy skin tests. Make sure to check the labels of all your medications (including eye drops and nasal sprays) to determine if they contain any ingredients listed below. If you have any questions regarding ingredients, contact your pharmacist. The medications listed must not be used for at least the amount of time indicated below, prior to allergy skin testing.

The following **Eye drops** must be held at least **7 days** prior to tests:

Pataday, Patanol, Optivar, Zaditor, Alaway, Elestat, Olopatadine, Azelastine, Ketotifen, Epinastine

Pheniramine (Visine allergy eye drops) must be held for **48 hrs** prior to tests

The following **Nasal Sprays** must be held for at least **7 days** prior to tests:

Astelin, Astepro, Azelastine, Patanase, Olopatadine, Dymista.

Oral Medications

Minimum time to be held Prior to allergy skin test

Benadryl, diphenhydramine (allergy medications and non-prescription sleep aids)	48 hrs
Doxylamine, pyrilamine, pheniramine (in allergy, cold and sinus preparations)	48 hrs
Phenergan, Promethazine (in prescription cough syrups and anti-nausea)	48 hrs
Periactin, cyproheptadine (appetite stimulant and other uses)	48 hrs
Meclizine, dimenhydrinate, Antivert, Bonine, Dramamine (motion sickness)	48 hrs
Tagamet, Zantac, Pepcid, Axid, Cimetidine, Ranitidine, famotidine, nizatidine (indigestion, heartburn medications)	48 hrs
Chlor-Trimeton, chlorpheniramine (in allergy, cold, and sinus preparations)	5 days
Tussionex cough syrup (contains chlorpheniramine)	5 days
Zyrtec, Xyzal, Atarax, Vistaril, Cetirizine, Levocetirizine, hydroxyzine (allergy & itch)	7 days
Loratadine (in nonprescription allergy medications including Claritin and Alavert)	7 days
Allegra, Clarinex, Fexofenadine, BroveX, Lodrane, Brompheniramine, Desloratadine,	7 days
Remeron, mirtazapine (treatment of pain, depression, appetite stimulant)	7 days
Tricyclics (headache, neuralgia, other chronically painful conditions; Doxepin also used for itch)	7 days
Amitriptyline, Elavil, imipramine, Tofranil	10 days
Doxepin, Sinequan, Pamelor, nortriptyline	10 days
Xolair	7 days

If you are taking medications with antihistamine effects, which cannot be stopped because of the severity of your condition, continue taking the prescription and let the office know prior to your visit.