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CERTAIN MEDICATIONS WILL INTERFERE WITH ALLERGY SKIN TESTS

During the evaluation of allergy patients, information gained from skin tests may be essential. It is critical that the patient avoids certain medications that block skin reactions to test materials. Failure to stop taking these drugs can prevent needed testing from being performed at the initial appointment. These medications are mainly antihistamines. Many over the counter cold medications may contain antihistamines. If you are unsure about a medication please check with your pharmacist. Some medications taken for anxiety, depression, stomach problems or other health problems unrelated to allergy also may interfere with testing however, medications taken for these disorders should not be discontinued. It is important for us to have a complete and accurate medication list before your allergy evaluation.

These antihistamines need to be stopped 5 days prior to your appointment:

- Azelastine (Astelin)
- Cetirizine (Zyrtec, Zyrtec D)
- Clemastine (Tavist)
- Desloratidine (Clarinex)
- Diphenhydramine (Benadryl)
- Doxylamine (Bendectin, Nyquil)
- Fexafenadine (Allegra, Allegra D)
- Hydroxyzine (Atrax, Vistaril, Marax)
- Loratadine (Claritin, Claritin D)
- Meclizine (Antivert)
- Triprolidine (Actifed)
- Xyzal

These medications should **not** be stopped before your visit:

- Steroids- Oral: Prednisone, Medrol
- Inhaled steroids: Azamacort, Pulmicort, Flovent, Qvar, Advair, Symbicort, Dulera
- Theophylline
- Singulair
- Accolate,
- Zylflo

If you take any beta-blocker medicine such as metoprolol, atenolol, carvedilol, Toprol, Coreg, Lopressor you cannot have an allergy test until you have been off the medicine for at least 2 weeks.

Please call the office if you have a question or you are unsure about any of your medications.