

Drugs that may need to be held prior to allergy skin testing or oral challenge

Certain drugs may interfere with testing

Please provide your doctor/nurse with a full list of the medications that you are currently taking in 1-2 weeks minimum in advance of your appointment ***The risk of stopping certain drugs may outweigh any benefit to interpretation of testing and this would also be discussed with you further (see starred drugs categories below) IF ANY DOUBT PLEASE ASK THE CLINIC PRIOR TO YOUR APPOINTMENT.***

Antihistamines: Stop 4 days before appointment

Includes common drugs such as loratidine (Claratin, Alavert), fexofenadine (Allegra), desloratidine (Clarinex), cetirizine (Zyrtec), levocetirizine (Xyzal), clemastine (Tavist), promethazine (Phenergan), hydroxyzine (Atarax), diphenhydramine (Benadryl), azatadine (Rynatan), and nasal antihistamines such as Astelin, Astepro and Patanase. Eye drops such as Elestat, Levostin, Optivar, Pataday, Patanol and Zatidor also contain antihistamines.

Cold medicines: Stop 4 days before appointment

Many cold medicines can contain antihistamines such as chlorpheniramine or brompheniramine. Other over the counter medications can contain anti-histamines in combination with other drugs (eg Tylenol PM, Exedrin PM, Kronofed A, Dimetapp, Nyquil, Advil Allergy Sinus, Rescon, Triaminic, Tylenol Allergy sinus, Tussi-12, Deconamine etc) and you should check with your pharmacist as to which ones may contain antihistamines.

Drugs for nausea, motion sickness, dizziness, appetite stimulation etc: Stop 4 days before appointment

These types of medicines include: prochlorperazine (Stemetil, Compazine), diphenhydramine (Benadryl), dimenhydrinate (Gravol, Dramamine), meclizine (Antivert), cyproheptadine (Periactin). **If you are on drugs such as Losec/Prilosec (omeprazole) or Nexium (esomeprazole) for heartburn you DO NOT need to stop these drugs.**

***Drugs for depression: Stop 7 days** before appointment

Include but not limited to: **amitriptyline (Endep), doxepin (Deptran, Sinequan)**, mirtazepine (Remeron), clomipramine (Anafranil), imipramine (Tofranil, Janimine, Praminil), nortriptyline (Pamelor, Aventyl).

Drugs used for reflux or acid indigestion: Stop 1 day before appointment

Ranitidine (Zantac), cimetidine (Tagamet), famotidine (Pepcid)

***Drugs used for other psychiatric conditions: Stop 14 days** before appointment

Risperidone (Risperdal, Risperdal Consta), olanzepine (Zyprexa, Symbiax), quetiapine (Seroquel) and many others.

***Drugs for heart conditions and blood pressure (beta-blockers): Stop 2 days** before appointment

Propranolol (Inderal), metoprolol (Lopressor), atenolol (Tenormin), acetabutolol (Sectral), carvedilol (Coreg), Timolol (Blocadren), Nadolol (Corgard), labetalol (Trandate), pindolol (Visken), bisoprolol (Zebeta, Ziac) and others.

*Interruption of these drugs may need to be discussed with you in detail and these drugs should not be stopped except for under the specific advice of a doctor associated with the drug allergy clinic, who will discuss further with your other doctor(s) if there are concerns.