



Allergy Asthma & Sinus Center, P.C.

Board Certified
in
Allergy and Immunology

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Important Information For Your First Visit

- Please bring your current medical insurance card(s) and a valid picture ID.
- **Appointment Cancellation Policy:** Many patients need our services. A last minute cancellation deprives someone else of an appointment time. Please notify our office of a cancellation or request for an appointment change at least five (5 days) in advance of your appointment.
- Be prepared to **pay your deductible, co-pay and/or co-insurance at the time of your visit.** We participate with most major insurance companies. We accept Visa, Master Card, American Express, Discover, Personal Checks, Cash, Debit Cards and HSA Cards.
- If you are paying as a Self-Pay (Cash patient), all charges are due at time of your visit.
- Some insurance plans require a referral from your primary care physician; **it is your responsibility to obtain a referral** prior to your visit. Unfortunately, we will not be able to see you, if you do not have a referral at the time of your visit.
- Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to your visit. If you are running late, please call our office, as a late appointment may require you to reschedule your appointment, for we may be unable to test you due to time constraints.
- New Patient appointments may take **two (2) hours** to complete. Therefore, it is important that you use the restroom or telephone before we begin testing. Skin test results will be discussed with you upon completion.
- **It is important to stay off antihistamines for five (5) to seven (7) days prior to testing. Antihistamines will block the skin test reaction.** (See detailed list of medications included in the New Patient Packet and on our website.)
- **Allergy Testing Procedures:** Based on your symptoms, we may find it necessary to perform tests such as skin testing. **Skin testing** is performed by applying allergens to the skin and lightly pricking. The results may be raised, red, itchy spots which will appear within 15 to 20 minutes after being pricked. This reaction is similar to a mosquito bite and usually disappears within several days after testing. Reactions can indicate which allergens may be causing your symptoms. Skin testing is not painful but can be somewhat uncomfortable.
- After skin prick testing, some patients may also receive **intradermal testing**, where a small amount of the allergen is injected under the skin of the arm to see if it causes a reaction. The intradermal test feels like pinches.
- We need any relevant reports from **laboratory studies, allergy studies, CT scans, or x-rays** (blood work, CTs of sinuses, chest x-rays, etc. – not the films, just the reports) done in the past six months, if any. **Please obtain copies of the reports**, either bring them with you or have them faxed beforehand to the office location of your appointment.
- We do not accept walk in appointments, all appointments must be made by calling our office.
- A parent/legal guardian or another adult (with a signed Consent to Treat form) must accompany patients under 18 years old.