



JOHN V. BOSSO, MD, FAAAAI, FAAAAI

LOURDES B. deASIS, MD, MPH, FACP, FAAAAI

EFFECTS OF ANTIHISTIMINES ON ALLERGY SKIN TESTS

Antihistamines taken orally can block responses to immediate-type allergy skin tests. Below is a list of some commonly used antihistamines and the approximate amount of time that these medications must be withheld prior to immediate hypersensitivity allergy skin tests:

<u>MEDICATIONS</u>	<u>AMOUNT OF TIME</u>
1. Benadryl/Tylenol Allergy & Sinus or PM	24 – 48 hours
2. Chlortrimeton (chlorpheniramine Short-act) 4mg	24 – 48 hours
3. Chlortrimeton 12 mg (12 hour)	3 – 4 days
4. Tavist (clemastine)	4 days
5. Claritin/Claritin D-24/Redi-tabs (loratadine)/Alavert	10 days
6. Claritin D-12 hour, Clarinex 5 mg	7 days
7. Allegra (fexofenadine) 60 mg/Allegra D-12 hour	3 days
8. Allegra (fexofenadine) 180 mg	5 days
9. Zyrtec (cetirizine)	3 – 4 days
10. Xyzal (levocetirizine)	7 days
11. Astelin <u>Nasal Spray</u>	48 hours
12. Atarax/Vistaril (hydroxyzine)	10 days
13. Periactin (cyproheptadine)	72 hours
14. Tricyclic antidepressants (Elavil, Amitriptyline, Nortriptyline)	10 – 14 days

For information on other antihistamines or medications, please feel free to contact the office at (845) 353-9600.