



Angela M. Iacobelli, M.D.
Darlene Brown, MSN, RN, NP-C

43417 Schoenherr Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48313

Phone: 586.981.0390
Fax: 586.803.3512

www.aasmich.com

New Patient Information

Field of Clinical Allergy

The specialty of clinical allergy and immunology is complex and requires thorough and time consuming attention to detail. It is the desire of this office to provide our patients with the most up to date and comprehensive allergy care available. We strive to deliver care to our patients in a friendly and personalized environment.

Your appointment is for: _____ at _____ a.m./p.m.

The initial allergy consultation requires approximately 2-2.5 hours. If you are unable to keep your appointment please cancel your appointment at least 24 hours before. Failure to cancel a scheduled appointment will incur a 30 dollar fee. During the initial consultation, a detailed history will be obtained and an adequate physical exam will be performed. If indicated, allergy skin testing is typically performed at the initial consult. If necessary, pulmonary function testing and lab work may also be performed. In order to facilitate obtaining a complete and accurate history, please complete the enclosed questionnaire and bring it to the initial consultation. By sending you this allergy questionnaire for completion, we hope to provide you with ample time to give each question thoughtful consideration. It is also recommended that any pertinent outside medical records be obtained and brought to the consultation (including X-rays, CT scans, outside blood work, or allergy testing). At the initial consultation, the significant findings and test results will be summarized and an initial course of action will be recommended. On some occasions, the entire allergy evaluation may require several visits. When the entire allergy workup is completed, the doctor will summarize all the findings, test results, and discuss a treatment plan.

Fees and Insurance

Payment is expected when medical services are rendered. **Although we participate with several insurance plans, not all insurances cover allergy testing or treatment. We recommend that all patients contact their insurance and verify allergy testing coverage.**

IMPORTANT: If your insurance requires a referral, it is your responsibility to obtain the referral from your primary care physician. Without a referral we will have to reschedule your appointment. **NOTE:** Your primary care physician must authorize every visit to our office as well as any performed procedures.

DIVORCED PARENTS: Patients under the age of 18 years of age must be accompanied by an actual parent or legal guardian.

PATIENTS 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER: Due to office policy and legislation (HIPPA law), patients must sign a release for the office to speak with a parent, spouse, or anyone other than the patient.

Skin Testing

Skin testing is essentially painless and can be performed at any age. If your child is to be tested, we will be happy to demonstrate the procedure to you. There are two types of skin tests which are helpful in determining the offending allergens: scratch tests and intradermal tests. Before applying scratch tests, the skin (usually the back) is cleansed





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with alcohol and allowed to dry. Different types of liquid diluted allergens are dropped on the back and then a special instrument is used to slightly scratch the skin. After 15 – 20 minutes, the allergen test drops are wiped off the surface of the skin and each test site is checked. The reaction of the skin is then noted to each allergen. A positive reaction consists of a raised, red, itchy welt that will clear up in less than 30 minutes. Scratch tests are usually performed first. The number of scratch tests may vary from only a few to over 50 (depending on the information that is required). Subsequently, if scratch test results need clarification or if no positive results occur, intradermal tests are performed. Intradermal tests are more sensitive tests that involve the injection of a small amount of allergen material into the skin. In 15 or 20 minutes, the allergen test is checked and the reactions are noted. The number of intradermal tests performed is usually less than 15.

We ask our patients to refrain from taking antihistamine medications (allergy medications) for a period of 4-7 days prior to the initial visit since these medications interfere with skin testing results. If it is not possible to stop the medications because of the severity of your symptoms, please notify the office prior to your first visit. Corticosteroids may be continued and do not interfere with allergy scratch or intradermal tests. If there are any questions, please call the office.

STOP THE FOLLOWING MEDICATIONS THAT CONTAIN ANY OF THE LISTED INGREDIENTS AT LEAST 7 DAYS PRIOR TO YOUR VISIT:

Alavert	Desloratadine	Levocetirizine
Allegra	Doxepin	Loratadine
Allegra D	(antidepressant)	Periactin
Atarax	Elavil	Vistaril
Cetirizine	(antidepressant)	Zyrtec
Clarinex	Fexofedadine	Zyrtec D
Claritin	Hydroxyzine	Xyzal
Claritin D		

IF YOU CANNOT STOP ALLERGY OR ANTIHISTAMINE MEDICATIONS, YOU MAY STILL BE SEEN FOR A CONSULTATION AND THE PROVIDER MAY PRESCRIBE ALTERNATIVE MEDICATIONS THAT DO NOT INTERFERE WITH SKIN TESTING. IF YOU ARE NOT CERTAIN AS TO WHAT MEDICATIONS NEED TO BE STOPPED, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE FOR CLARIFICATION.





**Allergy
& Asthma**
Specialists of Michigan

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Please note that DO NOT TAKE ANY OF THESE MEDICATIONS 3 DAYS PRIOR TO YOUR TESTING VISIT (Please note that the list contains several allergy medications, cold/flu/sinus medications, sleep aids, stomach medications, anti-itch medications, anti-nausea preps, vertigo medications, some allergy nasal sprays and eye drops).

Actifed	Benadryl	Diphenhydramine	Patanase (nasal spray)	Sominex
Advil PM	Benlyn	Dimetapp	Pataday (eye drops)	Tagamet (stomach aid)
Alaway (eye drop)	Chlor-Trimenton	Dramamine	Patanol (eye drops)	Tavist
Alka Seltzer	Chlopheniramine	Drixoral	Pedicare	Theraflu
Allerest	Cimetadine (stomach aid)	Dymista (nasal spray)	Pepcid (stomach aid)	Triaminic
Aleve PM	Compazine	Famotidine (stomach aid)	Phenergan	Tussionex
Antivert (for vertigo)	Comtrex	Meclizine (for vertigo)	Promethazine	Tylenol PM
Astelin (nasal spray)	Contac	Nizatidine	Ranitidine (stomach aid)	Zaditor (Eye Drops)
Astepro (nasal spray)	Coricidin	Nyquil	Sinutab	Zantac (stomach aid)
Axid (stomach aid)				

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO STOP FLONASE, NASACORT, RHINOCORT, OR TOPICAL STEROID NASAL SPRAYS FOR ALLERGY TESTING!

DO NOT STOP ANY ASTHMA MEDICATIONS, ORAL STEROIDS, BLOOD PRESSURE MEDICATIONS, DIABETIC MEDICATIONS, CHOLESTEROL MEDICATIONS, HEART MEDICATIONS, PAIN MEDICATIONS, AND THYROID MEDICATIONS ETC.

