

Procedure Information Sheet – Skin Prick Test

Hosp No. :	HKID No.:
Case No. :	
Name :	
DOB :	M / F
Adm Date :	
Contact No. :	

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Skin Prick Test is an assessment tool to investigate allergy condition and diagnosis of allergy symptoms. The doctor will select the specific allergens to be test according to the clinical symptoms. The testing typically includes common food allergens like cow's milk, egg white, soy, peanuts, wheat, fish and shellfish, or environmental inhaled allergens like house dust mites, animal dander, mold, tree, grass and weed pollen.

2. Indications

- 2.1. Food allergy
- 2.2. Eczema or skin allergy
- 2.3. Allergic rhinitis
- 2.4. Asthma

3. Preparation before test

- 3.1. Discontinue oral antihistamines for about 5-7 days.
- 3.2. Stop apply topical corticosteroids over the skin to be tested for at least 7 days.
- 3.3. Some other medications may affect the test, discuss with your doctor if you are using these

4. Procedures

- 4.1. The skin prick test is often done on the forearm or at the back.
- 4.2. The forearm or back will be cleaned with sterile water and the position of the type of allergens to be tested will be marked.
- 4.3. The skin will be pricked by needle (called lancet) or a multi-test device dipped with a tiny drop of each diluted allergens to be tested. There may be minimal pain during procedure.
- 4.4. The skin will be assessed 15-20mins later. The allergen may trigger a local reaction in the form of wheal and the size of the wheal to be measured and recorded.

5. Risks and Complications

- 5.1. Skin prick test is a safe procedure with low risk. It is very rare that the test may trigger severe allergic reactions.
- 5.2. The allergic wheal is itchy and usually subside within short time. Topical creams and oral antihistamines may be given if symptoms persist.
- 5.3. If you have positive skin prick test reactions and history of asthma or systemic allergic reactions, you will have to stay for observation for 30mins after the procedure.
- 5.4. In rare situation, there may be delayed reactions happened hours after the procedure.

6. Remark

- 6.1. This is general information only and the list of complications is not exhaustive. Other unforeseen complications may occasionally occur. In special patient groups, the actual risk may be different. For further information, please contact your doctor.

7. Reference

- 7.1. Australian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy. Allergy testing. Information for patients, consumers and carers.
- 7.2. Oxford Radcliffe Hospital NHS trust. ENT outpatients. The skin prick test information for patients.

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I acknowledged the above information concerning the operation or procedure. I have also been given the opportunity to ask questions and received adequate explanations concerning the condition and treatment plan.

Patient/ Relative Signature: _____

Patient/ Relative Name: _____

Date: _____

