

Allergy Testing

About Your Test

- Your health professional has requested this test to check for the possible causes of any allergy you or your child may have.
- An allergy is an adverse reaction to environmental factors that can sometimes present as asthma, hay fever or eczema.
- The Skin Allergy Test helps determine whether you have an allergic reaction to certain environmental substances or foods, for example, house dust mites, milk, eggs.

PLEASE NOTE: Antihistamine tablets and steroid creams suppress the skin test response and under medical advice should be stopped at least 72 hours prior to testing. Patients with a known anaphylactic history (hypersensitivity) and/or coexisting cardio-respiratory disease should not have this test without further medical consultation.

- Please telephone Southern Community Laboratories to make an appointment.

Procedure

1. Then skin surface of the forearm will be washed.
2. Various allergens are placed on the skin surface of the forearm. The skin is given a small prick through each allergen.
3. The excess allergen is removed by laying a tissue on the surface of the arm. After 15 minutes the test area on the forearm will be checked.
4. A raised red area will appear on the skin of the forearm if the test is positive.
5. Your health professional will interpret the medical results from the allergy test in relation to your (or your child's) medical history.